

Hafa Adai!

Sablan: No ethics violation in voting for Torres' impeachment. **PAGE 3**
Competency evaluation sought for man in sexual assault case. **PAGE 7**

\$1

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THE CNMI'S FIRST
DAILY NEWSPAPER

BEA CABRERA

File photo shows the peaks of Pagan.

Pagan out in revised CJMT

Military training activities on Pagan and high-caliber live fire training on Tinian are now off the table under the amended proposal to the 2015 Commonwealth Joint Military Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement recently submitted by the U.S. Department of Defense to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres

Also eliminated under the new amended proposal to the 2015 CJMT DEIS are the construction of land-

ing ramps in Chulu Beach, a High Hazard Impact Area for the use of artillery and aviation delivered muni-

tions, an extensive range footprint, extensive fencing, and Special Use airspace.

The new notional proposal

also contemplates similar training activities that are already currently conducted on the island of Tinian, but with an eye toward training for the future that is significantly less impactful and harmful to the environment and the way of life for the people of Tinian than the 2015 proposal.

The amended proposal follows a series of meetings among Torres, DoD, the Ti-

nian leadership, Northern Islands Mayor Vicente Santos, and key stakeholders in the community. Torres himself is pleased to inform people of the CNMI that the concerns of the community have been heard and addressed.

A total of 27,000 comments were submitted as part of the

» **High-caliber live fire on Tinian also off the table**

National Environmental Policy Act process, where people of the CNMI, most especially the residents of Tin-

ian and Pagan, were clear in their opposition to activities that required a High Hazard Impact Area, the destruction of Chulu Beach, Special Use

See **PAGAN** on **Page 4**

Tinian divert airfield will open job opportunities for the island's residents

TOGETHER, WE CAN
By **DONALD J. POWER**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Donald J. Power is the vice president of the FPA Pacific Corp. He is also a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers where he serves under the Fiscal Economic Diversification Committee and is the co-chair of the Tinian Development Committee under



For many years, Tinian has intended on being a self-sufficient island. CNMI leaders and elected officials have seen the potential economic growth that our island has to offer for our residents, specifically in employment and business opportunities. Last month, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and elected officials with the U.S. Department of Defense broke ground on the Tinian divert airfield, a project that will be completed by October 2025.

See column on on **Page 11**

Bellas to issue written decision in Torres' suit vs JGO

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

After hearing the arguments and briefs submitted by both parties, judge pro tempore Timothy Bellas took under advisement the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee's motion

to dismiss the lawsuit filed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres over its decision to hold him in contempt.

During a hearing yesterday at the Superior Court, Bellas told the parties and those in attendance that he does not enjoy the position he is in, having to settle a dispute between the Legislature and



Bellas

would take the matter into

the Executive Branch, but because of the significance of the matter he must and

advisement before issuing his written decision.

"The court does not relish being in this position having to arbitrate this dispute between the executive and the legislative branches. However, sometimes it's what judicial officers have to do. The significance of the issue

See **BELLAS** on **Page 4**

IPI now delayed with 3 payrolls; lack of funds stymies crane removal

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is now delayed with its three payrolls due to funding challenges, according to Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Andrew Yeom.

At the CCC board's monthly meeting last Wednesday, Yeom also disclosed that due to lack of funds IPI's

top management from Hong Kong stopped the removal of tower crane No. 5 from the rooftop of the Imperial Pacific Resort in western Garapan.

On payrolls, Yeom said that IPI internally announced that these three payrolls are delayed until further notice.

Saipan Tribune learned that about 40 active employees, including senior vice

president for marketing and public affairs Tao Xing and human resources director Redie Dela Cruz, are affected by the non-payment of the three payrolls.

"These recent payroll issues will only complicate matters that much more with the existing labor case/settlement at hand," Yeom said.

He said IPI could not pay its active employees for pay period covering March 7 to

20, 2022.

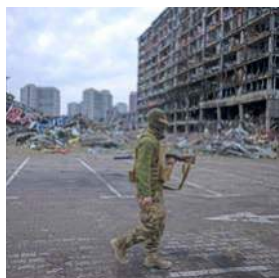
IPI made only a partial payment for pay period Feb. 7 to 20, 2022, and failed to pay for period Feb. 21 to March 6, 2022.

Dela Cruz said a partial payment means only the lower waged employees such as security and some construction workers were paid.

IPI management notified its active employees last

See **IPI** on **Page 4**

INSIDE



WORLD

Russian forces bombarded areas around Kyiv just hours after pledging to scale back operations.

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OFF THE WALL

A Southern California man is accused of smuggling more than 1,700 reptiles into the U.S. since 2016.

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LIFE & STYLE

Bruce Willis is stepping away from acting after a diagnosis of aphasia, a brain condition.

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Local

Torres denies committing any felony or corruption

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres denies that he committed any felonious act, or that he engaged

in any conduct amounting to corruption, neglect of duty, or contempt.

In his answer Friday to the Articles of Impeachment, Torres, through his lawyer, Anthony H. Aguon, also denies violating his constitutional oath to faithfully discharge his duties as governor, to defend the CNMI Constitution and laws, or his constitutional responsibility to faithfully execute the laws of the CNMI.

As this developed, *Saipan*

Tribune learned yesterday that the House of Representatives has transmitted to the Senate the House impeachment records. The Senate is currently reviewing the records.

» House transmits impeachment records to Senate

Per Senate Impeachment Rules, once the records are certified by the Senate's clerk to be accurate and whole, the Senate then can move forward with providing these records to Torres and set hearing dates.

In his answer to the AOI, Torres admits he has received some reimbursements from the CNMI government for expenditures made in connection with official business.

He admits that the CNMI government paid for certain

utility services, activities and items needed for the conduct of official business.

Torres also admits he made certain trips to the Northern Islands, and other destinations, for official business, or as related to his duties as governor.

In Torres' affirmative defenses, Aguon said the AOI are constitutionally deficient and fail to comply with the applicable House of Representatives Rules, the Government Ethics Act, and the NMI Constitution Article 2 Section 15.

Aguon said AOI are unconstitutional because they request relief that exceeds what is provided by the CNMI Constitution.

He said AOI are unconstitutional because they violate due process, ambiguous, vague

and overbroad, and irreparably defective.

Last Jan. 12, the Democratic Party-controlled House adopted the AOI against Torres, making him the second governor in CNMI history to be impeached.

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH

Child welfare staff recognized in proclamation signing

By **LEIGH GASES**
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CORRESPONDENT

Community partners, advocates, and government and non-government representatives gathered at the Tanapag Youth Center yesterday morning for a proclamation signing that designated April as CNMI Child Abuse

and Neglect Prevention and Awareness Month, during which several child welfare staff were also recognized.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who signed the proclamation, also addressed the youth at the event, saying, "You need to take care of each other. ... If you see things, talk to your teachers, your counselors, as they really

need your help. Instead of bullying, offer your help and it goes a long way. Try to put yourself into their position."

Vivian Sablan, Division of Youth Services administrator, recognized, highlighted, honored, and thanked the child welfare staff. "Child Protective Services staff are tasked to protect innocent lives, as young as newborns in ways that address both the physical and mental health dangers that arise from abuse or neglect at home."

Sablan thanked them for their "courageous actions in the line of their work and commitment to working to ensure safety and family preservation." She recognized nine CPS staff from Saipan, two from Rota, and two from Tinian.

The child welfare staff from Saipan were Julian R. Camacho, Benylin Mettao, Mariah M. Barcinas, Quaid O. Ngrir

chongor, Melycher I. Sablan, Juanicia Villanueva, Christine Joy C. Aldan, Marge S. Mendiola, Gennie Lynn Bliss. The staff recognized from Tinian were Augusta B. Famaw, Cindy Florene C. Alo. The staff recognized from Rota were Quindy M. Maratita, Mildred W. Sikebert.

According to the proclamation, child abuse and neglect can be prevented by making every family safe, and is given the support needed to raise their children in healthy, safe, and nurturing environment free of domestic violence, abuse and neglect. Our community and our children are the most valuable assets and are vital to the future success of prosperity. Everyone in the community should become more aware of child abuse prevention and consider help-

See **CHILD** on Page 4

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Sablan: No ethics violation in voting for Torres' impeachment

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan), who is the NMI Democratic Party's candidate for governor in the Nov. 8 election, said Wednesday she firmly believes she did not violate the House of Representatives' Ethics Rules when she participated in the impeachment process and in voting for the impeachment of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. Torres is seeking re-election under the NMI Republican Party.

Responding to Torres' assertion in his motion to dismiss the Articles of Impeachment where he cited Sablan several times about her alleged violation of Ethics Rules, Sablan said she is a member of the Legislature and that her participation in the investigation and impeachment of Torres began long before she decided to accept the Democratic Party's nomination for her to run as governor. Sablan was also one of the 15 House members who voted for the im-

peachment of the governor.

"I have a job to do. I take that job seriously," she said during a news briefing at the House of Representatives that was also attended by the House leadership bloc.

Sablan said that prior to the impeachment vote, she consulted with multiple attorneys—the House's counsel as well as outside counsels. Sablan said the counsels reviewed the House Ethics Rules as well as the Ethics Code to see if there was an impermissible conflict that would bar her from continuing to participate in that process.

"And the answer was no," she said.

Sablan noted that there is a precedent for other legislators, other members of legislative bodies who are running for executive office also voting in impeachment proceedings. She cited as example the recent impeachment of former President Donald Trump.

"So I am firm in my belief that I voted well within the Ethics Rules. I had a job to do, a constitutional responsibility,

and I have done that job," she said.

At the same news briefing in the House's chamber, House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) said what they're trying to do is not much. Villagomez, who earlier declined the Senate's selection of him as chief prosecutor, has requested Senate president Jude U. Hofschneider not to select one House prosecutor but a prosecutorial team of five representatives.

"This is not about whether



Sablan

the governor gets removed or not, but it's also about protecting the process and also providing the CNMI people with a fair trial, protecting them from officials that may abuse their power and their position," he said.

Villagomez said that Hofschneider was the Senate president back in 2013 when then-governor Benigno Fitial was impeached.

Villagomez said there were rules drafted and that those rules seem fairer in terms of

providing a fair trial at the Senate. "What we are asking for...is untie our hands a little bit more so we can go through the process more fairly," he said.

Villagomez said one of the remedies is one more push so that they can get the team that he has listed to be prosecutors.

"That's the remedy for now. And we'll see how it goes from there. And we'll further discuss what's the next steps after that," he said.

The speaker said it is possible for the Senate to go ahead and proceed with the impeachment trial without a prosecutor

or a team of prosecutors from the House.

"There's really not much we can do to prevent that unless any member [would] like to chime in and correct me if I'm wrong," Villagomez said.

Sablan said if the Senate proceeds with the trial without House prosecutors, it would be a travesty of justice. "And there could be no pretense anymore at that point that there will be a fair trial. It should be a shame, and it would be a grave injustice to the people of this Commonwealth if the Senate were to forego a trial," Sablan said.

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This investment not only supports demand for safe and reliable mobility options during the COVID-19 crisis but also demonstrates Enterprise's commitment to supporting local economies and driving forward environmentally friendly modes of transportation across the islands as they move out of travel restrictions.

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IPI

From Page 1

Thursday that the payroll covering March 7 to 20, 2022, that is scheduled for distribution on March 25, 2022, will be delayed until

further notice.

The management also announced that the delayed payrolls for the two previous payrolls will be extended.

On the crane removal project, Yeom said the workers were recently told to stop the

removal operation for tower crane No. 5 until further notice. He said no work is being performed at the job site since then.

IPI's construction management said yesterday that there are six tower cranes, and

tower cranes No. 2, 3, 4, and 6 have already been dismantled for safety. Tower crane No. 5 has yet to be dismantled, while tower crane No. 1, which is in the courtyard, is still being evaluated.

IPI recently stated that the

challenges of funding remains and the financial hardships for the company since the closure of Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan continues.

IPI said the search to find resources to cure these delays is their top priority.

CHILD

From Page 2

ing parents use their children in a safe, nurturing environment.

Sablan said that April may officially be Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Awareness Month but their work at the Division of Youth Services continues every day to ensure that innocent lives are protected.

"The safety and overall being of children and families we serve will always be our utmost priority. We continue to thank our partners for working alongside our staff as well as the many parents, interns and volunteers who extend their assistance as we continue to work toward family strengthening in the CNMI," she said.

BELLAS

From Page 1

requires that I take the matter under advisement and issue a written decision as to what will happen to this lawsuit," he said.

Torres did not appear during yesterday's hearing, but was represented by his lawyers: Gil Birnbrich, Joseph Horey, Richard Miller, and Washington D.C.-based Ross Garber.

Brendan Layde and Joseph Tajeron represented the JGO committee, whose members were present during the court proceedings.

In a statement from Layde after the hearing, he said it is unfortunate that the court was placed in the middle of the two branches' disagreement, but he has faith in the court and its ability to decide on the matter.

"We agree with the court that it's unfortunate that the

Judiciary was placed in this position of having to arbitrate between the legislative and the executive branches. We also do not relish the Judiciary having been placed in this position, but we have faith in judge Bellas' acumen and it will be very interesting to see how this moves forward procedurally as well as what the collateral consequences will be for the other related proceedings," he said.

Meanwhile, in a written statement from one of Tor-

res' counsels, Birnbrich, he believes that the arguments they have made in opposition to the JGO's motion to dismiss are strong and they look forward to moving ahead to the next phase of the case.

"The issues presented in the case are certainly unprecedented in the CNMI. Never before has an ordinary committee of a house of the Legislature attempted to subpoena a sitting governor and force him to appear before them. It was clear

that judge Bellas had thoroughly read the parties' briefs and thoughtfully reviewed the issues. We thank judge Bellas for allowing our off-island counsel, Ross Garber, to participate remotely and wish to thank the court staff in making it happen. The governor and his legal team also acknowledge the professionalism of judge Bellas and opposing counsel at the hearing on defendant's motion to dismiss," he said.

PAGAN

From Page 1

airspace restrictions, and other impacts on the people of the CNMI, its culture, environment, and economy.

Torres extends his appreciation to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, U.S. Marine Forces Pacific and Joint Region Marianas for their partnership.

"I thank INDOPACOM Commander Adm. John Aquilino, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Hashimoto, Rear Adm. Benjamin Nicholson, and their team for their partnership," said Torres. "The amended proposal is drastically different in content and nature than the proposal submitted in 2015, achieving a closer balance to the type of development we see in the Commonwealth, and is more aligned with the intents of our founding fathers in their work toward crafting our Covenant. Thank you again for all the work put into ensuring the voices of the CNMI are a part of this process and for taking the conversations of the Technical Working Group to heart in fostering a real partnership for us all."

Tinian Mayor Edwin P. Aldan said the amended proposal is a significant step in the right direction for the people of Tinian who will be most impacted by these training activities.

"The extensive reduction in range footprint will allow continued access and co-use of the Military Leased Area, which will allow our cattle ranchers and our cattle industry to grow," he said. "The exclusion of artillery and aviation delivered munitions and High Hazard Impact activities means no more bombs and howitzers type of weapons. Because these activities are removed, there is no longer a need to restrict airspace and allows for a greater public access to historical sites and beaches within the MLA,



Go. Ralph DLG Torres, sixth from left, is joined by Maj. Gen. Mark A. Hashimoto, fifth from right, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, and other ranking CNMI officials. Hashimoto is also the executive director for Marianas Forces Pacific.

which is critical to our tourism industry and our economy. On behalf of the Tinian Leadership and the people of Tinian, I want to thank Governor Torres and Maj. Gen. Mark Hashimoto for their leadership on this matter. This is a big win not only for the people of the Tinian but for all of the CNMI."

Last week, the CNMI-DoD Technical Working Group reconvened in a three-day series of meetings to discuss the revised training concept. The meeting outcome yielded consensus to continuing the dialogue and working toward addressing mutual interests and concerns. The Technical Working Group is composed of subject matter experts from departments and agencies across the central and municipal government and DoD counterparts from U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific, Joint Region Marianas, and the Pentagon.

Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) extends his appreciation

to the Technical Working Group for their efforts in ensuring the CNMI's red lines are addressed.

"I commend the efforts of the Technical Working Group for all their hard work and dedication. The revised training concept presented is significantly different from the 2015 proposal," said Hofschneider. "I appreciate the commitment and transparency of the DoD team. This revised training concept recognizes the concerns of the community and speaks volume of their commitment to our partnership. I also commend the Torres administration for affording the people of Tinian through their leadership to be active participants and decision-makers in this process. We are excited with this collaborative approach and I look forward to our continued dialogue with our DoD partners."

With a resounding no to bombing Pagan by members of the community throughout the CNMI, Santos is content

that Pagan is now off the table.

"I am pleased that Pagan is completely removed from the proposal. Over the last few years, Pagan has been the choice of vacation destination for CNMI residents and I look forward to the continued efforts toward developing the island for rest and recreation and for the eventual resettlement of our Pagan residents," Santos said. "I want to thank DoD for respecting the wishes of the people and to Gov. Torres for ensuring my full participation to jointly represent the residents of the Northern Islands on this critical matter."

During the inaugural meeting of the Technical Working Group and through subsequent meetings, Torres asked that the CNMI participants hold an open mind to this engagement and to be forthcoming on the concerns the CNMI has for the proposed activities on our islands. He also asked the DoD partners for openness and understanding that their

counterparts in the CNMI have devoted this part of their lives to trying to do what is right for these islands and its people.

"I would like to thank all members of the CNMI [Technical Working Group] for their dedication and participations in these critical engagements and for their vigilance in the protection of our culture, environment, resources, and our way of life," said Torres. "We all have a role in this development, and we all, DoD and CNMI alike, are benefited from a plan that supports our nation's security while maintaining [devotion] to the sustainability and protection of our islands. Being American also means we have responsibilities along with rights. Let's continue the good work that is being done and build on this partnership. But also remember what got us here today—honesty about the issues, openness to discussion, and persistence to doing what is right for the

people of Tinian, our Commonwealth and our nation."

Hashimoto, who represented U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, stated, "Our guiding principle during these interactions was to show a deep respect for the land, people, and culture of the CNMI. To keep and strengthen trust, we must continue to do the right things, for the right reasons. The people of the CNMI spoke, and the Department of Defense listened."

Hashimoto further commended the skill and professionalism of CNMI agency representatives. "We could not have asked for a better group of partners as we seek to strike the right balance among our four imperatives—protecting natural and cultural resources; lessening and mitigating training impacts; improving economic opportunity; and advancing national security interests," he said.

Hashimoto closed on a note of optimism. "I believe our interaction should inspire others and serve as a model for how the Department of Defense engages with local communities. I believe these favorable conditions will carry us into future discussions where there is only one approach—to move forward, together."

Throughout the course of the past seven years engaging with DoD senior leaders, Torres successfully forged a strong partnership with the Department of Defense. With the interest of the people at the forefront of his agenda, he makes certain that the CNMI has a seat at the table in all engagements.

In line with the governor's commitment to build an enduring partnership with DoD, dialogues with DoD partners will continue to further develop a training proposal that balances the concerns and needs of the people of Tinian, the whole CNMI, and emerging national security requirements. (PR/Saipan Tribune)



CK Smoke House and Salad is now open

By **BEA CABRERA**
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

CK Smoke House and Salad in Chalan Kanoa checks all the boxes when opening and running a successful smoke barbecue restaurant. Since February, the restaurant has become the go-to place for unique barbecue offerings, with tasty dishes and fresh salad that goes well with the restaurant's relaxed, family-oriented ambiance.

According to P&A Corp. general manager Doyi Kim, the idea behind CK Smoke House and Salad is quite simple really. Since their company also operates the Marianas Meat slaughterhouse and Fresh Market, where ready-to-cook meat is distributed, they already have a line of products that would complement the restaurant.

"...Marianas Meat has been supplying different kinds of meat to the community for many years and putting up a restaurant is another way to maximize the use of local meat. ...We offer grilled, barbecue, and smoked meat dishes that suits the local flavor using special ingredients," she said. "Since we are new, we are still perfecting every dish, and we work very hard because there is nothing like it on island right now. ...We are continuously developing our menu and learning by ourselves. ...Our goal is to use our own meat and get additional supply from local farmers because our vision is to help local agriculture."

With just a little over a month of operations under its belt, CK Smoke House and Salad is already gaining a market base—this interview was being done around lunch time and many people could be seen flocking to the restaurant.

The ambiance itself is welcoming, with a relaxed atmo-

sphere and décor that brings to mind a modern country house. It is well lit, spacious, clean, and definitely a place where family and friends would enjoy a good meal together. Parking is not a problem as it can accommodate over 30 cars. "We just wanted a place where people can be themselves. They do not have to really 'dress up' to come here because there is nothing formal about this place and we just want customers to enjoy their meal and have a good time," Kim said.

It does not have to be pay-day to eat at Smoke House because meals go for \$15 and below and the portions are big. "Our prices are reasonable and we have received a lot of good feedback about our prices which is also another goal—good meat dishes that our community can afford," she added.

The Smoke House menu is an array of island favorites—beef, pork, and chicken dishes that are served hot and fresh at your table. Expect a delightful version of the Chamorro beef steak, pork *sisig*, crispy *pata*, and chicken wings. Smoked-style includes juicy grilled short ribs, porkchop, hamburger steak and seafood that includes fresh mahi, mussels and more. They also have a smoked-BBQ style where customers can choose pork, beef, chicken plates or all of those in one plate.

They have different "special lunch" served every day and that includes a main meat dish, creamy soup, a choice between vegetable or potato salad, and a choice between plain or fried rice for only \$10.95.

Customers can mix dining and fun at the restaurant because they also have karaoke and can accommodate private functions and celebrations. To help people unwind, happy hour is from 5pm to 7pm and

you get a discount of \$1 on selected drinks. Future plans include live bands.

Operations manager Kevin Kim said that Marianas Meat is U.S. Department of Agriculture-certified and that partnership continues to maintain the good quality of the meat that they distribute. "The USDA certification means that the meat we use for our dishes is akin to organic beef because we do not grow cattle like they do in factories. ... We do not interfere with their growth. ... We let the animals roam around the

farm, they feed on grass, which is full of vitamins, omega 3 and nutrients and ultimately produce healthy animals because of their healthy diet."

"We work with the inspector every day and maintain quality assurance at work. ... We are also careful and do what the USDA requires from start to finish in handling meat. There is no room for error or cross-contamination because we maintain the cleanliness of the area and all the workers comply with quality requirements," he added.

Dory Kim believes what the community needs is a great ambiance, reasonable prices and good quality meat—and they heeded that call.

"We want our customers to be satisfied from the moment they come in, eat, and go home. We want them to come back and have a wonderful time again. Another goal is for everyone to know we are local friendly. We want them to have the mindset that they can come and be comfortable here," she said.

CK Smoke House and Salad is located at the back of U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa. They are open Monday to Sunday, from 11am to 2pm lunch and 5pm to 9pm happy hour and dinner. For more information, call (670)234-332. Look them up on Facebook or Instagram: @CKSmokeHouseSpn and get a chance to have a CK Smoke House eco-friendly bag.

BEA CABRERA

CK Smoke House and Salad provides a mix of modern and country-style ambiance.

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FAX: 288-4488
E-mail: guangdong_hardware@163.com

BUSINESS HOURS:
Monday to Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22-052

Opening Date: March 30, 2022
Closing Date: April 13, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	Fiscal/Budget Officer
DEPARTMENT:	CFO/Accounting
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	\$56,439.00 - \$76,192.00 per annum, Non-Exempt
CONTRACT:	Contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief Financial Officer or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Supervises professional and support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Supervises day-to-day accounting operations to include: reviewing and approving journal entries; reviewing entries from accounting modules; reviewing trial balance and financial statements; reviewing and maintaining subsidiary ledgers; analyzing problematic accounts; providing guidance to staff; and, monitoring and analyzing revenue and expenditures.
- Attends a variety of meetings and serves as a liaison between the department and other departments, organizations and agencies.
- Prepares a wide variety of financial and analytical reports and statements.
- Prepares annual budget by providing advice and guidance to division managers.
- Prepares budget reprogram and reclassification requests.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field and four years of professional level accounting or finance experience including two years supervisory experience.

Preferred Qualifications: Master's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field and six years of professional level accounting or finance experience including four years supervisory experience.

Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Customer service principles; Supervisory Principles; Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and other applicable laws, rules and regulations. Budgeting Principles; and Basic mathematics.

Skills in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Performing mathematical calculations; Applying accounting procedures and principles; Developing and implementing procedures and standards; Recording, analyzing, verifying, reconciling, and reporting accounting transactions; Preparing and analyzing financial statements and reports; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing:

- Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22-055

Opening Date: March 30, 2022
Closing Date: April 13, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	Fiscal Administrator
DEPARTMENT:	CFO/Accounting
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	\$42,411.00 - \$57, 255.00 per annum, Exempt
CONTRACT:	Contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief Financial Officer or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of CFO/Accounting Division.

Duties:

- The Fiscal Administrator may lead and/or supervise staff to include prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Maintains, monitors and balances assigned funds.
- Performs professional accounting duties, including but not limited to: project accounting, grants reporting and management, Public Utilities Commission (PUC) compliance reporting; utility rate case data analysis and reporting, general journal entry preparation and posting/analyzing accounts; assisting with annual audits including preparation of audit schedules.
- Prepares, reviews, and submits a variety of reports, reconciliations, and statements to and from internal departments, financial institutions, and/or Local, State, and Federal agencies.
- Performs month-end and year-end closing of books of accounts;
- Prepares analyses of inventory and participates in periodic physical inventories. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and 4 years of professional level experience related to area of assignment.

Preferred Qualifications: Master's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field and six years of professional level accounting or finance experience including four years supervisory experience.

Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances. Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Generally accepted accounting principles; Financial analysis principles and techniques; Advanced mathematical concepts; Research methods; Customer service principles; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and other applicable standards. Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment); Providing guidance and leading work activities (based on assignment); Prioritizing activities and meeting deadlines; Preparing financial information, adjustments and entries related to general ledger; Researching, compiling, calculating and reconciling data and information; Researching technical issues, solving problems and providing solutions; Monitoring and maintaining fiscal account information and reporting; Reconciling data, preparing adjustments and posting account and journal entries; Providing attention to accuracy and detail; Preparing reports, correspondence and related fiscal documentation; Providing customer services; Providing technical guidance related to financial systems; Maintaining databases and financial records; Assisting with audits, inventory processes and/or equipment maintenance schedules; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Hawaiian hula teacher will appear on quarter

HONOLULU (AP)—The late Native Hawaiian hula teacher Edith Kanaka'ole is among five women who will be individually featured on a U.S. quarter next year as part of a program that depicts notable women on the flip side of the coin.

The U.S. Mint said Wednesday the other side of each quarter will show George Washington.

It described Kanaka'ole, who died in 1978, as a composer, chanter, dancer, teacher and entertainer.

“Her mo‘olelo, or stories, served to rescue aspects of Hawaiian history, customs and traditions that were disappearing due to the cultural bigotry of the time,” it said in a news release.

The Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation in Hilo, which was established in 1990 to perpetuate her and her husband Luka Kanaka'ole's teachings, said she has been recognized as “the preeminent practitioner of modern Hawaiian culture and language.”



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NMHC IFB 2022-004

(This ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: May 03, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Purchase of Vehicle for the Emergency Housing Voucher Program

The bid package will be available on April 01, 2022, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net by clicking on the “Procurement Tab”.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

For any inquiries regarding this bid shall be submitted to Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net or facsimile at (670)234-9021, on or before April 15, 2022.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED “MARCIE” M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE DISSOLUTION

Please take notice that Island International School LLC intends to file articles of dissolution with the CNMI Registrar of Corporations anytime after this notice is made.

Anyone with a claim against the corporation is requested to submit it in accordance with the following:

1. The claim shall be made in writing and shall state the name of the claimant, the amount of the claim, the factual basis for the claim, and the name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person who may be contacted by the corporation with respect to the claim.
2. The claim may be sent to: saipanrobert@yahoo.com or call 670-783-1868
3. A claim against the corporation will be barred unless a processing to enforce the claim is commenced within five years after the publication of the notice.

Island International School LLC
PMB 350 10001 Saipan MP 96950

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE DISSOLUTION

Please take notice that RK Mediline LLC intends to file articles of dissolution with the CNMI Registrar of Corporations anytime after this notice is made.

Anyone with a claim against the corporation is requested to submit it in accordance with the following:

1. The claim shall be made in writing and shall state the name of the claimant, the amount of the claim, the factual basis for the claim, and the name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person who may be contacted by the corporation with respect to the claim.
2. The claim may be sent to: saipanrobert@yahoo.com or call 670-783-1868
3. A claim against the corporation will be barred unless a processing to enforce the claim is commenced within five years after the publication of the notice.

RK Mediline LLC
PMB 350 10001 Saipan MP 96950

Competency evaluation sought for man in sexual assault case

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The defense lawyer in the case of a man accused of raping two sisters has asked the court to have her client evaluated for competency.

During a preliminary hearing last Wednesday at the Su-

perior Court, assistant public defender Vina Seelam, lawyer of Edwin S. Sablan, asked Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan to grant a competency evaluation for her client. A competency evaluation is usually done to determine if a defendant is capable of understanding the charges

against them.

Seelam also sought the dismissal of the court-appointed interpreter, saying the issue with Santos' lack of understanding of the proceedings seems to be from a learning disability rather than an inability to understand English.

Bogdan granted Seelam's request for a competency hearing but denied the motion to dismiss the court-appointed interpreter.

Following the hearing, Bogdan reassigned the case to Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho to determine competency before vacating Sablan's April 4, arraignment hearing.

According to court documents, Sablan, 40, is facing charges of sexual assault in the first degree, attempted sexual assault in the first degree, and disturbing the peace.

Sablan's alleged crimes were uncovered after police responded to a report of a disturbance at the man's residence in Oleai.

The caller told responding officers that she and Sablan had an argument that took place two days earlier. Sablan allegedly told her to leave the house so she and one of her daughters did and stayed with family in Susupe. However, when they returned to get their

belongings on March 18, Sablan refused to let them enter the house and told them to sleep outside.

The caller then told police that Sablan was not only angry with her because of Sablan's argument, but because she also witnessed him sexually assaulting her children a few months before. When police asked why she had not reported it sooner, the caller said she was scared to report it because Sablan might hurt her.

She said she first witnessed Sablan allegedly trying to have intercourse with her oldest daughter about four months ago in November 2021. She



Sablan

said she had woken up and went to check on her children in the room they share and that's when she allegedly saw Sablan, who stopped what he was doing upon seeing her. Sablan reportedly ran after her

to apologize.

The second incident she reportedly witnessed was in January 2022 with her other daughter. She told police that she had woken up and was walking out of her room at around 11pm to 12am when she allegedly saw Sablan with her other daughter. She said when Sablan saw her again, he ran after her to apologize.

IPI follows up on request for extension to complete Imperial Pacific Resort project

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has followed up with the CNMI Lottery Commission on its request in July 2021 for an extension on the construction deadline for its initial gaming facility.

Tao Xing, IPI's senior vice president for marketing and public affairs, informed the Commonwealth Casino Commission during the CCC board's meeting Wednesday about his effort to follow up on the matter with the Lottery Commission last March 24.

In his letter addressed to Lottery Commission chair Edward DeLeon Guerrero, Xing

inquired on the timetable of the review and approval process of their request. Xing said that IPI will align its resources accordingly and cooperate fully with the Lottery Commission in this process.

DeLeon Guerrero, who also chairs the CCC board, said he has not seen the letter.

On July 8, 2021, then IPI chief executive officer Ray N. Yumul requested then-acting Lottery Commission chair David DLG. Atalig to grant IPI a five-year extension to complete the construction of the Imperial Pacific Resort in western Garapan.

IPI was required by the Casino License Agreement to complete the project by Feb. 28, 2021.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Earhart, LLC
Suite 208, DHL Building, Middle Road
P.O. Box 505979 CK Saipan, MP 96950

Accountant

Job Duties:

Prepare, review, and analyze financial statements or other accounting records for accuracy, completeness, consistency and compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and other standard accounting procedures. Maintain an accurate and complete recording of receipts, disbursements, income, and expenses utilizing the company's accounting software. Calculate taxes owed. Prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual tax returns, including but not limited to, monthly business gross receipts tax, estimated tax, employer's quarterly withholding tax, 941-SS employer's quarterly federal tax, W-2 wage and tax statement, W-3SS transmittal of wage and tax statements, annual reconciliation of withholding taxes withheld, corporate income tax, ensuring adherence to requirements for payment, filing, and reporting with the federal and local tax government agencies. Prepare checklist for new clients and review accounting engagement tasks. Review billable and non-billable expenses including adjustments to ensure that the coding of billing and expenses are accurate within established practices. Prepare and analyze client's billing and respond to inquiries regarding billing issues and problems. Review check requisitions ensuring validity of transactions, proper authorization and supporting documentation and general ledger coding consistent with company's prescribed policies and procedures for financial operations. Review and calculate employees time record. Maintain and administer payroll data. Provide analytical review of income and operating expenditures by performing periodic reconciliation of accounts. Prepare ad hoc reports and analysis as requested by the management. Perform other duties as required and assigned.

Location of Employment: Saipan

Applicants for this position must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy with 60 months work experience as an Accountant. Interested applicants should send their application and resume to the employer (by mail: P.O. Box 505979 CK Saipan, MP 96950; by email: Where_Is_Amelia@hotmail.com).

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

TWO (2) TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

Design, plan, organize, and provide ongoing outreach, training, consultation, coaching services, and other targeted/customized professional development supports to child care providers, teachers, parents, partner agencies, and community members; Develop and present early childhood training information using a variety of instructional manuals, guides, or course materials, such as handouts or visual materials; **Develop and facilitate training and technical assistance around best practices (e.g. health and safety standards, child development, developmentally appropriate practices) for children ages 0 to 12;** Conduct scheduled and unscheduled observations and assessments of providers as directed to meet established standards; Work with providers to define specific, focused and clear goals and quality improvement plans; Orient and train providers according to established quality standards; Recognize high and low-quality early childhood interactions, instructional support, and environments; Collect, interpret, and use data for quality improvement purposes; Ensure that training materials are up to date with new developments for child care providers, teachers, parents, partner agencies, and community members; Understand, interpret, and implement all components of the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) ratings and improvement supports; Monitor program progress towards achieving quality; Understand responsibilities as a mandated reporter (including preparing and presenting information to providers, the community, and stakeholders); Document work using the program's computer-based data system; Develop and maintain schedules for on-site visits based on program need; Participate in professional development provided by Evergreen Learning and consultant partners; Participate in coach framework fidelity checks; Maintain provider, family, and child confidentiality; Maintain 60 hours of annual professional development; and, Perform all other related duties.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's Degree in Education with emphasis in early childhood education;
- Minimum of three (3) years teaching experience in early childhood education with at least two (2) years training and development experience.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Flexible hours that include evenings & weekends not to exceed 40/hrs. a week; &
- Travel within Saipan and be able to travel periodically to the islands of the CNMI (Rota & Tinian) to work with licensed and license-exempt providers for professional development.

Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to:

Evergreen Learning, Inc.
MSV Building, Unit 202, 2nd Floor, Chalan Kanoa
P.O. Box 501931, Saipan, MP 96950
Contact no. 670-235-1377
or by e-mail to: jobs@evergreenlearning.org

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Chamorro talk show to feature migration history

The Chamorro Cultural Talk Show tomorrow will feature Malia A. Ramirez on the topic “I Chamorrin Yap/History of Migration.”

The program, which will air on Magic 100.3FM, will start at 10am and will take place within the Marianas Agupa’ Talk Show.

The Chamorro Cultural Talk Show is a community project of the non-profit organization Inet-

nun Kutturan Natibun Marianas/Kkoor Aramasal Marianas, or IKNM/KAM. Organization president Isidoro T. Cabrera the program aims to celebrate and recognize the CNMI’s cultural experts and encourage public interactions in humanities-related topics, including culture, tradition, history, language, traditional healing practices, local names of places in the CNMI,

music, among others. The talk show will be every other Saturday starting at 10am. Cultural experts will be presenting in Chamorro followed by a Q&A call-in, chat, from the public and via social media. The public is also encouraged to participate in a survey after each talk show to help the association improve the show and identify future

shows and cultural experts. If more than 20 people respond, four prizes will be awarded from a randomly selected group of respondents within two weeks after each show. Details about the survey will be provided during the talk show and posted on the Marianas Agupa’ Talk Show Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Marianas-Agupa->

Show -278884342457682 or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5heKROsqSVHg-5ztadbDHA>. Here is the SurveyMonkey link for the April 2, 2022 Talk Show: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/t/ZBLQHG2> This project was made possible, in part, by support from the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, a non-profit, private

corporation funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan and the NEH Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan initiative. Listen live on Marianas Agupa’ Show on KWAU Magic 100.3 FM and streaming on the Internet via Tunein Radio, YouTube, and Facebook. **(PR)**

JKPL invites public to annual literacy fair

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is inviting the community to celebrate a monthlong series of festivities highlighting National Library Week starting this Saturday, April 2, at the JKPL parking lot.

Saturday’s activity, called the 3rd Annual Community Mobile Information Literacy Fair, signals the start of “National Library Week” and will last from

10am to 2:30pm. Participants will each get a “passport” that they will be stamped at each booth they visit. The first 100 participants who complete their passports will get free popcorn, shave ice, and cotton candy. National Library Week 2022, which is from April 3 to April 9, is a time to celebrate the nation’s libraries, library workers’ contributions and promote library


use and support. The theme for National Library Week is “Connect with Your Library,” which promotes the idea that libraries are places to get connected to technology by using broadband, computers, and other resources—in addition to books. Overall, the theme is an invitation for communities to join, visit, or advocate for their local libraries. The JKPL encourages sponsors to donate to the event,

where they are able to receive cash contributions under Educational Tax Credits. Make checks payable to CNMI Treasury or via MUNIS to Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library vendor#100404. For more information on this event, contact Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at (670) 235-7318 or (670) 287-7316 for coordinator/Bookmobile supervisor Leora Terlaje or library assistant Caitlyn Crisostomo. **(Leigh Gases)**

Emergency water service interruption

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be an emergency scheduled water service interruption on April 2, 2022, from 8:30am to 3pm for customers in the Achugao, San Roque and Tanapag areas. The emergency water service interruption is to allow CUC water operators to repair a 2 1/2 inch galvanized service lateral leak in San Roque. Customers should expect restoration of wa-

ter services soon after. For the safety of the men and women at the jobsite, motorists are asked to proceed with caution when traveling through the working area as CUC water operations personnel will be working on the shoulder of the southbound lane at the repair site. For more information, contact the CUC Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates. **(PR)**



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
www.cnmiports.com

AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER RENOVATION PROJECT**, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-004-17.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Air Traffic Control Tower Renovation Project for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, Project No. CPA-SA-004-17”* and submitted no later than **2:00 PM, MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022**, to the Office of the Executive Director, CPA Administration, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to minimize their company’s attendees to ensure social distancing, as well as wear a face mask at all times while at the airport.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited, repairs and improvements to the Air Traffic Control Tower inclusive of restrooms, kitchens, ceiling, flooring, walls, cab and catwalk, diagonal bracings, antenna supports, air conditioning, ventilation, plumbing, fire, jockey pump systems, electrical equipment and other miscellaneous work on non-damaged components necessary for required repair of damaged components, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY (420) calendar days**.

Liquidated damages in the amount of **ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

A DVD containing the Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (US \$250.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”. Bidders should notify CPA immediately if there are issues retrieving the files in the DVD.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the ARFF Classroom at the Saipan Airport Fire Station, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. The pre-bid and site visit are not mandatory. However, it is the bidders’ responsibility to familiarize themselves with the project location and conditions. Bidders are requested to minimize their company’s attendees to ensure social distancing, as well as face wear a mask at all times while at the airport. For site visits after the pre-bid conference, bidders are to coordinate with Mr. Edward Mendiola, CPA’s Deputy Director, at edmundiola@cnmiports.com or telephone number (670) 237-6505.

Bidders attention is called to the fact that this is a renovation project, and the bid is to be lump sum inclusive of all work described in the contract documents including all labor, equipment, materials (including excess waste materials), necessary fittings and accessories. Lump sum work shall include all work on existing concealed elements referenced by the contract documents or required for completion of any other elements specifically referenced in the contract documents.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com at least fourteen (14) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the DVD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-27 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation’s Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.


In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: March 10, 2022



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
www.cnmiports.com

AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PASSENGER LOADING BRIDGES 1, 4 AND 5 REPLACEMENT AND ISOLATED SPALL REPAIRS TO PCC PAVEMENT AT GATES 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5**, SAIPAN, OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-002-20.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Passenger Loading Bridges 1, 4 and 5 Replacement and Isolated Spall Repairs to PCC Pavement at Gates 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, Project No. CPA-SA-002-20”* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to replacement of three existing passenger boarding bridges at Gates 1, 4, and 5 with new apron-drive bridges and isolated spall repairs to PCC pavement at Gates 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport including all associated work, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA). The Contract provides that the Contractor shall invoice for labor and materials for passenger boarding bridge replacement at Gate 1 separately from the invoice for passenger boarding bridges replacement at Gates 4 and 5 and spall repairs at Gates 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (which may be invoiced together).

The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY EIGHT (568) calendar days if awarded all three bridges**. Duration may adjust based on funding availability which will determine the number of bridges to be replaced.

Liquidated damages in the amount of **ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A DVD containing the plans and specification, including the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 a.m., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022**, at the Saipan Airport Conference Room, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the DVD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation’s Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: March 31, 2022

USCIS extends flexibility for responding to requests

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is extending certain flexibilities through July 25, 2022, to assist applicants, petitioners, and requestors. We anticipate this may be the final extension of these flexibilities. USCIS will consider a response

received within 60 calendar days after the due date set forth in the following requests or notices before taking any action, if the issuance date listed on the request or notice is between March 1, 2020, and July 25, 2022, inclusive:

- Requests for Evidence;
- Continuations to Request

Evidence (N-14);

- Notices of Intent to Deny;
- Notices of Intent to Revoke;
- Notices of Intent to Rescind;
- Notices of Intent to Terminate regional centers; and
- Motions to Reopen an N-400 Pursuant to 8 CFR

assist our families.”

To learn more about enrolling at Mount Carmel School for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmel-saipan.com. (PR)

335.5, Receipt of Derogatory Information After Grant.

In addition, USCIS will consider a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, or Form N-336, Request for a Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings

(Under Section 336 of the INA), if:

- The form was filed up to 90 calendar days from the issuance of a decision we made; and
- We made that decision between Nov. 1, 2021, and

July 25, 2022, inclusive.

Under previously announced flexibilities, USCIS considered a Form I-290B or a Form N-336 if the form was filed up to 60 calendar days from the issuance of a decision by USCIS, and if the decision was issued between March 1, 2020, and Oct. 31, 2021, inclusive. (PR)

MCS offers monthly payment options

Mount Carmel School recently announced its continuation of lower monthly payments for the 2022-2023 school year. With this extension, families can continue to divide the usual 10-month payment plan over 12 months. The Early Bird Special provides a variety of discounts for families looking to secure their child's enrollment for the upcoming school year.

The annual early bird registration discount is as follows: For grades K4 - K5 registration is \$75 per student (normally \$100). For students in grades first through twelfth, the registration fee is \$200 per student (normally \$400.)

Additionally, families with two children can avail of a \$600 discount off of tuition for the second child, families with three children can avail of a \$1,000 discount off of tuition for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a \$1,500 discount off of tuition for the fourth child.

The deadline for the Early Bird registration and fees is scheduled for May 2, 2022.

The school's Leadership Team will be exploring ways to expand scholarship funding and financial aid. This may include earmarking a portion of all Education Tax Credit revenue toward the school's scholarship and financial aid program.

“It is important that our school families feel supported,” said vice principal Filmah Buenaflor. “In an effort to help our community, our team at Mount Carmel School intends to continue to provide these options to



REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) **Preliminary Matters**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - i. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 6, 2022
 - ii. Special Board Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2022
 - iii. Special Board Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2022
 - iv. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2022
 - v. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2022
 - vi. Special Board Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2022
 - vii. Special Board Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2022
- 2) **Public Comments**
- 3) **Committee Reports**
 - a. Finance Committee
 - i. Fund Status Report
 - b. CNMI Tourism Resumption Investment Plan (TRIP)
 - i. CNMI TRIP – Japan
 - c. Marketing Committee
 - i. CDBG-DR Grant – Global Branding
 - ii. Japan Ambassador
- 4) **Old Business**
 - a. MVA HQ Office Space
 - b. MVA Korea – TAMS Inc.
- 5) **New Business**
 - a. Travel Policy – Per Diem Rates
 - b. Sponsorship Request – Flame Tree Festival
 - c. Joint Promotion Program
 - i. The First Saipan Mariana Hiking Festival
 - d. HB22-095 – To Amend FY22 to Properly Fund Retirees' Bonus
- 6) **Executive Session**
- 7) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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Website: www.cnmpiports.com

INVITATION FOR BID

AIR CONDITIONING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PORT OF SAIPAN PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-003-22

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed bids for Commercial Air-Conditioning Units Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and Port of Saipan. Bidders shall take into consideration all charges associated with this procurement before finalizing their bid price.

The Bid Package is available for pick-up beginning March 11, 2022, at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport, upon a non-refundable payment of \$100.00 in cash, cashier's check, or by credit cards. Bidders must submit all required documents listed in the Bid Package. All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged the bidder awarded for this project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m., March 29, 2022 at the CPA Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building. The purpose of this conference is to allow potential bidders an opportunity to present questions and obtain clarification relative to any facet of this solicitation. While attendance at this conference will not be a prerequisite to submitting bid, bidders who intend to submit a bid are encouraged to attend. Any site visit may be coordinated with Dennis Cruz and Sandy Camacho of the CPA by calling telephone numbers (670)237-6596-(Dennis) and (670)237-6507-(Sandy). Questions regarding this procurement should be submitted in writing through the CPA Procurement Officer via email at atudela@cnmpiports.com on or before close of business, April 05, 2022.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Bid for Air-Conditioning Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport & Port of Saipan/IFB-003-22”. One (1) original and two (2) copies of the bid must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. Local Time, April 11, 2022, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Bids will be opened at 2:30 p.m., April 11, 2022 and publicly announced at the CPA Procurement Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport. Bidders are welcome to attend the bid opening. Bids submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any bids received after the bid submittal deadline shall be rejected and returned to the bidder unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation for Bids; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the bid would not be in the best interest of CPA. The CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would not be in CPA's best interest.

All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This Invitation for Bid shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

March 07, 2022

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

DATE

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: Global KS Corporation

THE POSITION: Civil Engineering Technician

JOB DESCRIPTION: Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications, and material quantities using calculator or computer; Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements; Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications; Confer with supervisor to determine project details, such as plan preparation, acceptance testing, and evaluation of field conditions; Analyze proposed site factors and design maps, graphs, tracings, and diagrams to illustrate findings; Prepare reports and document project activities and data; Report maintenance problems occurring at project site to supervisor and negotiate changes to resolve system conflicts; Inspect project site and evaluate contractors' work to detect design malfunctions and ensure conformance to design specifications and applicable codes; Conduct material test and analysis using tools and equipment and applying engineering knowledge; Develop plans and estimate costs for installation of systems, utilization of facilities, or construction of structures.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION: Must have at least an Associate degree in Civil Engineering.

EXPERIENCE: Must have at least 24 months of relevant work experience in civil engineering works.

JOB SITE: Beach Road corner Alus Street, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

HOW TO APPLY: If interested, please submit or mail application and comprehensive resume, with supporting credentials to:

SALVACION N. HOSSAIN

Secretary

GLOBAL KS CORPORATION

Office Address: Beach Road corner Alus Street, Garapan, Saipan

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Mailing Address: PMB 108, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Email Address: globalkscorp32@gmail.com

Telephone Number: Tel. 1 (670) 233-0880

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
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E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMPIPORTS.COM



INVITATION FOR BIDS SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-002-22

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed bids for **Solid Waste Collection Services** for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The **bid package** containing all the specifications, date of pre-bid meeting, and other requirements will be available at the Accounting Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Departure Building beginning **March 02, 2022** upon payment of **\$50.00** in cash, cashiers check or credit card. All responses to this IFB shall take into account any costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

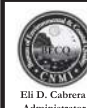
Bids will be received at the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport until **2:00 PM LOCAL TIME, Friday, April 01, 2022**. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked: **“Bid for Solid Waste Collection Services at the Saipan International Airport, Project No. CPA-IFB-002-22”**. Bidders are to submit one (1) original and three (3) copies.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation For Bids; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.

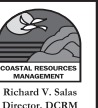
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM of the DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: April 1, 2022

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency determination from the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding proposed rulemaking for Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Fish Stocks including Limits on US Purse Seine Fisheries. More information about the proposed activity can be accessed via the DCRM website at: <https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/CZMA-CD-NMFS-WCPFC-Purse-Seine-Limits.pdf>

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a state's federally approved coastal management program (CMP).

Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's CMP can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resources Management at fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp.

Public notices are published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. State agencies are not required to provide public notice of the receipt of a negative determination or the resolution of an objection to a negative determination, unless a Federal agency submits a consistency determination pursuant to 15 CFR § 930.34. DCRM is soliciting public comments for fifteen (15) days, starting on April 1, 2022 and ending on April 15, 2022. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.

Opinion

Hafa Adail Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Jan. 6 phone record gap hints that Trump may have committed crimes

A steady drip of evidence continues to indicate that former President Donald Trump may have personally committed crimes in connection with the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol insurrection. A federal judge said as much on Monday, finding that facts show it is “more likely than not” Trump on that day committed the federal crimes of obstructing Congress and conspiring to defraud the U.S.

On Tuesday, The Washington Post and CBS News reported there is a seven-hour, 37-minute gap in official phone logs turned over to Congress regarding Trump’s calls as the attack unfolded—this despite reporting from the time showing Trump was on calls throughout the event.

Did Trump use an undocumented “burner” phone, favored communication mode of mobsters and other criminals, to hide his activity that day? If so, why? Politically fraught as it may be, it’s becoming increasingly difficult to avoid the conclusion that a full-bore criminal investigation by the Justice Department is warranted.

Trump’s documented activities alone between the November 2020 election and Jan. 6 are a parade of impropriety at least bordering on criminality. In court and in public, he spread pernicious lies about voter fraud, with zero evidence. He personally hounded state election officials, including Georgia’s secretary of state, of whom Trump demanded, “find 11,780 votes”—the exact margin he needed to win the state.

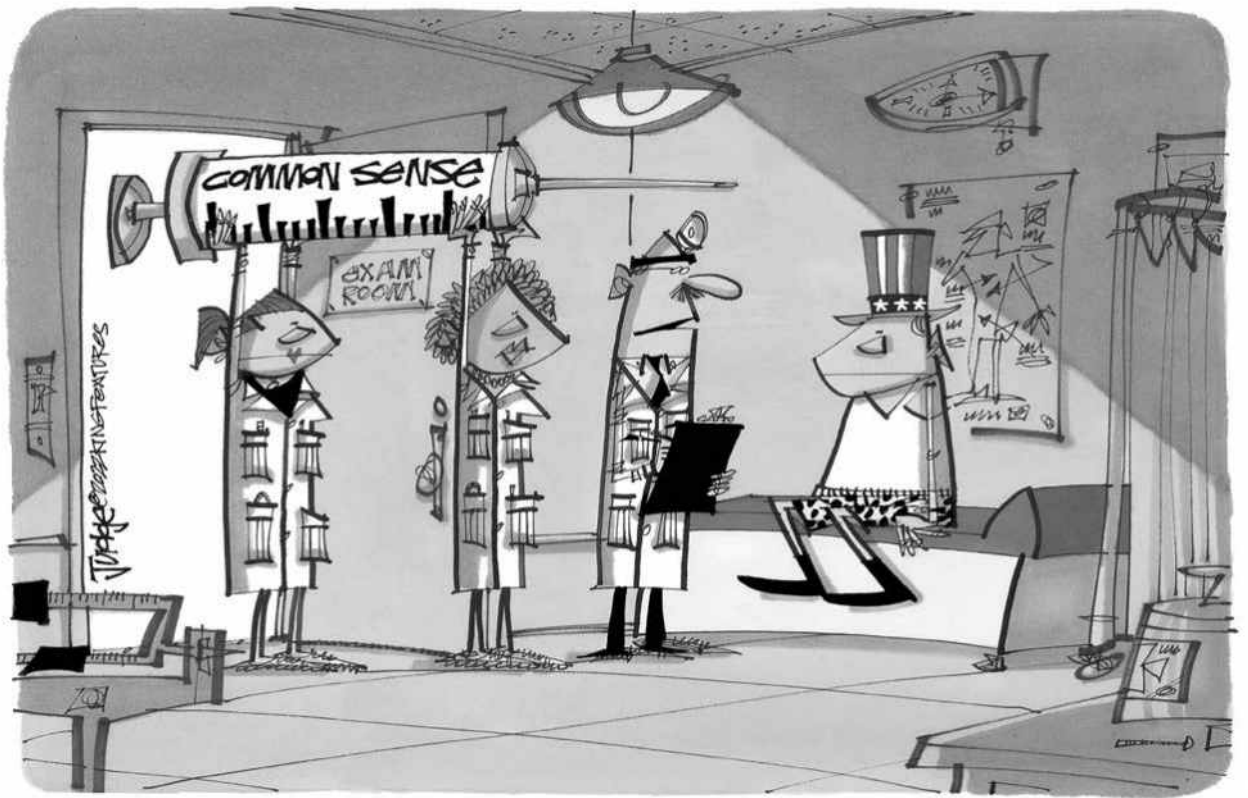
On the day of the Capitol riot, Trump incited his followers to “fight like hell” shortly before they stormed the building and halted the election certification. Then he refused for hours to intercede, ignoring pleas from his own advisers to call off the horde. He harangued and pressured his own vice president, Mike Pence, to illegally throw the election, then publicly condemned Pence for refusing.

Prior reporting has established that Pence was among those with whom Trump talked by phone on Jan. 6 during the 457 minutes when, the logs turned over to Congress indicate, he wasn’t talking to anyone. It’s a matter of record that Trump had multiple other phone conversations during that mysterious gap, including one in which he brushed off House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy’s frantic demand that he call off the rioters.

The Jan. 6 select committee ultimately must determine whether to recommend that the Justice Department criminally investigate a former president for actions he took while in office. That’s something no former president has ever faced—not because they were all choirboys but because, no matter how justified, one administration going after its predecessor would inevitably create a precedent that partisans of the future may feel empowered to abuse.

That’s a legitimate concern. But it’s not more legitimate than the principle that no one, not even a president, is above the law. At some point, evidence of clear criminality cries out for a response. If that point hasn’t yet been reached in the current case, it’s certainly getting close.

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Children’s mental health struggles are everyone’s problem

As a doctor who works in a pediatric intensive care unit, I take care of a lot of extremely sick children. Typically, when a patient is memorable, it is because they have unusual symptoms or a rare illness or injury. But lately there have been several patients who haunt me because of their similarity.

Over the last decade of my career, I have seen a dramatic increase in children and teens who try to harm themselves. They have the same haunted look, the same worried parents, the same palpable sense of despair. I have seen children as young as 9 try to kill themselves. Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for those ages 10 to 24.

And if a child with mental health issues lives in a home with access to a firearm, especially one that is not stored safely, their chances of dying from suicide increases fourfold. Firearms are by far the most lethal method of suicide attempts, so most of those patients do not even make it to pediatric intensive care.

During the pandemic, children have suffered. More than 140,000 children have lost a caregiver during the pandemic, and Black youth have been disproportionately affected by this loss due to inequities related to systemic racism. It is not just the pandemic, though. There was a 60% increase in suicide in children and adolescents between 2007 and 2018.

I sit by the bedside and ask them their stories, and many of them are surprisingly forthcoming. There are often struggles at school, bullying, a sense that people would be better off without them, or concerns about things like gender or sexual identity. Each story is unique, but at the same time, each feels remarkably similar.

I only see the children who survive, those who told someone what they did or were found by someone, and those who ask for help. For every child who needs my care, there are an untold number who are struggling with mental health issues. The number of children and teens with depression has increased by about a quarter over the last five years, and those with anxiety by about a third. The American Academy of Pediatrics declared a national emergency in children’s mental health last year.

Because mental health issues are so prevalent in children, it is everyone’s problem. There is still a stigma associated with mental health problems that we need to overcome. We need to normalize the conversation around mental health and suicide. It’s important to emphasize that talking about suicide does not lead to an increase in suicide.

There has always been a severe shortage of pediatric mental health care professionals. This leads to long waits and sometimes long drives for appointments. About 70% of U.S. counties do not have a single pediatric psychiatrist, and only half of kids with

By **DEANNA BEHRENS**
Tribune News Service



Dr. Deanna Behrens is a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit doctor in Chicago and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

mental health conditions are cared for by mental health providers. These kids are often identified by families or schools and treated by primary care physicians. Around 80% of pediatricians have lost at least one child under their care to suicide, and a growing number of providers are experiencing burnout themselves.

How do we help these children and adolescents? How do we decrease the risk that they end up in my intensive care unit?

Parents and families can look out for warning signs in their children, including withdrawing from friends, drastic changes in mood, behavior or performance in school, weight loss, difficulty sleeping, or especially hurting themselves or talking about death or suicide. If you see these signs in your child, please make an appointment with your pediatrician to discuss your concerns. If you have a firearm in the home, please make sure that it is locked and stored separately from ammunition. Suicide attempts are often impulsive acts by adolescents, and ready access to a gun can drastically increase risk of death from suicide attempts.

Because pediatricians are increasingly treating these kids, we need to invest in giving them the resources and training to screen and treat all children, especially those in underserved populations, for mental health problems. We need to make sure that hospitals have adequate staff and beds to take care of those who do need us. We need to involve the community and schools in mental health promotion and suicide prevention by peer-to-peer support programs and awareness campaigns.

I recently joined more than 400 other pediatricians to call and visit elected officials to urge them to prioritize the needs of children and adolescents in any mental health legislation. Specifically, we spoke up in support of two important bills: the Supporting Children’s Mental Health Care Access Act and the Youth Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Act. These bills would increase access to mental health care services and provide direct funding to schools for mental health promotion and suicide prevention. They are bipartisan efforts, and they are gaining momentum. Let your elected representatives know you support them.

It takes everyone to address this mental health crisis.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tinian divert airfield will open job opportunities for residents

For many years, Tinian has intended on being a self-sufficient island. CNMI leaders and elected officials have seen the potential economic growth that our island has to offer for our residents, specifically in employment and business opportunities. Last month, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and elected officials with the U.S. Department of Defense broke ground on the Tinian divert airfield, a project that will be completed by October 2025.

The project will call for a larger labor force and create more employment opportunities for Tinian residents. In fact, as of last month, a contracted company hosted a job fair with the intent to hire residents to assist in building the divert airfield.

An aviation pipeline will be constructed from the port to the airport. It will be the focal point of the project and will boost Tinian's economy. Commercial planes will be able to refuel allowing for an increased viability of direct flights to Tinian. The pipeline will provide more opportunities for private-sector jobs, and businesses will generate increased revenue through local sales.

The divert airfield will also contribute to an increase in local taxes through the growth of the economy. We can expect increased spending in local stores and imports into the island. The



**GOVERNOR'S
COUNCIL OF
ECONOMIC
ADVISERS**

attention the divert airfield would bring to Tinian will boost the need for local goods, attract new businesses or investments, thus creating even more job opportunities for our residents.

MVP 2.0

When the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers launched the Marianas Village Pride Campaign, Tinian Elementary School was one of the first to sign up. The elementary school recently finished painting the schools' medians, curbs, and sidewalks. MVP 2.0 will focus on elevating village pride among more Tinian residents.

Our community members can also benefit from the MVP 2.0. Having the Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan work closely with GCEA on educating residents about what it means to have village pride will be a closer step to elevating overall efforts for Tinian residents.

Our residents need to be well-informed in other ways to be proud of their island and where they come from. We can play a bigger role in enhancing the beauty of the island. I encourage more local people to develop and join the PPP programs.

Kudos to the Tinian Elementary School students, teachers, and counselors who played a part in this initiative to beautify the

TOGETHER, WE CAN By DONALD J. POWER

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Donald J. Power is the vice president of the FPA Pacific Corp. He is also a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers where he serves under the Fiscal Economic Diversification Committee and is the co-chair of the Tinian Development Committee under the GCEA.

schools' surroundings to enhance visibility for motorists!

Let's continue our beautification efforts as we celebrate Earth Month in April! We all have a role to play when creating a healthy planet. I encourage the community to learn and embrace the importance of preserving our trees and use this month to plant more trees every year.

Together, We Can!

For more information, visit the GCEA at cnmieconomy.com, on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy), or contact them at gceacnmi@gmail.com.

Diversity inclusion is disability inclusion

By CLEO NENING
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Every April, we celebrate Autism Acceptance Month, otherwise known as World Autism Month. The United Nations declared World Autism Awareness Day to be sanctioned on April 2 as the kickstart to this monumental awareness month. The theme for this year is "Inclusion in the Workplace: Challenges and Opportunities in a Post-Pandemic World."

It is crucial that as a community, we address the inconsistent and harsh realities that people with autism face in our present day. It is unfortunate, but the challenge is that inclusion remains a utopian dream as discrimination, stereotypes, and the negative stigma of people with disabilities still exist. However, this is just another barrier that our community must get through, not individually but together in order to move toward diversity inclusion in the society, especially in the workforce.

Oftentimes, employers are hesitant to hire an individual with a disability. The reasons may vary, but what is most commonly believed is that hiring people with disabilities will somehow

increase business costs. This is NOT true. There are agencies that can provide reasonable accommodations that assist the employee but also support the employer, so that the business operations are not affected. These agencies provide education and training for the employers, as well as cost-effective reasonable accommodations based on the specific disability and what the employee is seeking. Working together provides these opportunities for people with disabilities and is another step closer to diversity inclusion in our community.

Many people assume that individuals with autism cannot positively contribute to growth in workplaces and result in less employment opportunities. I believe that this stereotyping is not true as disabilities are not necessarily just inabilities. Underemployment has great impacts on the mental and physical health of people with autism; leaving them idle makes them vulnerable to comorbidities like depression, sleep disorders, and suicidal thoughts. Therefore, I plead for to you to look beyond the challenges and the needs that people with autism live with and include them in job selection in the post-pandemic world. Even though autistic people may need more time and planning to maintain and complete assigned tasks on time and as required,

their contribution in workplaces greatly impacts their personal and organizational development. Employment will also help them offset the economic cost that comes with autism.

The advocates of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. aggressively charge through barriers of employment for people with disabilities. The advocates work with different agencies such as the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Medicaid, the Assistive Technology Center, and many other Disability Network Partners to assist the employers and employees in providing support in the workplace. It is time to acknowledge, accept, and advocate for the end of discrimination, stereotypes and stigma surrounding hiring individuals with disabilities. As we prepare for Autism Acceptance Month, let's remember that diversity inclusion, is disability inclusion. Together, we can work toward building an inclusive community for all.

For more information on disability inclusion please call NMPASI at 670-235-7273/4 (voice); 670-287-0652(text message); or visit us online at www.nmpasi.org.

Cleo Nening is program coordinator at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.

Russian cyberattacks are a threat. But so is Americans' fear of shortages

Reports of Russian cyberattacks against our domestic infrastructure have raised alarms and calls for heightened vigilance across the United States' public and private sectors. Given that the U.S. and its allies have imposed significant economic sanctions against Russia for its attack of Ukraine, state-sponsored Russian cyberattacks are likely; they may be viewed as an effective form of retaliation.

Domestic infrastructure, including our nation's power grid, food supply chain, water systems, financial system and government agencies, have all been targets of cyberattacks for years.

For example, last spring, ransomware attacks against the Colonial pipeline and meat producer JBS temporarily disrupted fuel and food supply chains. The attacks were traced to an organization based in Russia. Its motives were clearly financial—secure payments from large organizations with deep pockets that cannot afford such a disruption to their operations and supply chains.

Are cyberthreats from state-sponsored Russian operatives potentially more lethal? The problem is differentiating between state-sponsored attacks and attacks by cybercriminals. Their motives may be different, but the tools that they use still require penetrating cybersecurity walls through weak links, such as by exploiting vulnerabilities in multifactor authorization protocols.

The recent warning about possible state-sponsored Russian cyberattacks reminds us that every entity, large or small, is vul-

nerable if it lets its cybersecurity guard down. This has led to significant growth in the cybersecurity industry, as more bad actors attempt to penetrate the cyber infrastructures of companies and organizations. The cybersecurity market is estimated to reach over \$366 billion by 2028.

Ironically, the most sophisticated firewalls and cybersecurity guards are only as safe as the people who use them. Cybersecurity often requires that people take extra steps to ensure that their computer systems are protected. If just one person lets their guard down, such as by opening an innocuous-looking email attachment that is actually a form of phishing, a perpetrator will be able to bypass sophisticated protections and gain access to valuable information behind a firewall.

Russian cyberthreats are not new. The statement President Joe Biden issued for heightened vigilance is not only applicable today but also should be part of the daily protocol for every company and organization. Whether it is maintaining state-of-the-art firewalls and identity validation systems or training people to follow the most up-to-date security procedures, protecting every entity's cyber infrastructure must be a top priority.

One major threat of potential Russian cyberattacks is an overreaction by Americans as they fear disruptions in gasoline, food, banking or other commodities and create a surge in demand and artificial short-term supply shortages. Such events would also temporarily drive prices higher, further fueling inflation pres-

By SHELDON JACOBSON

Chicago Tribune



Sheldon H. Jacobson is a professor of computer science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.






sure that are already at a 40-year high. This means that the American people, not the Russian government, would be creating havoc in the U.S. economy.

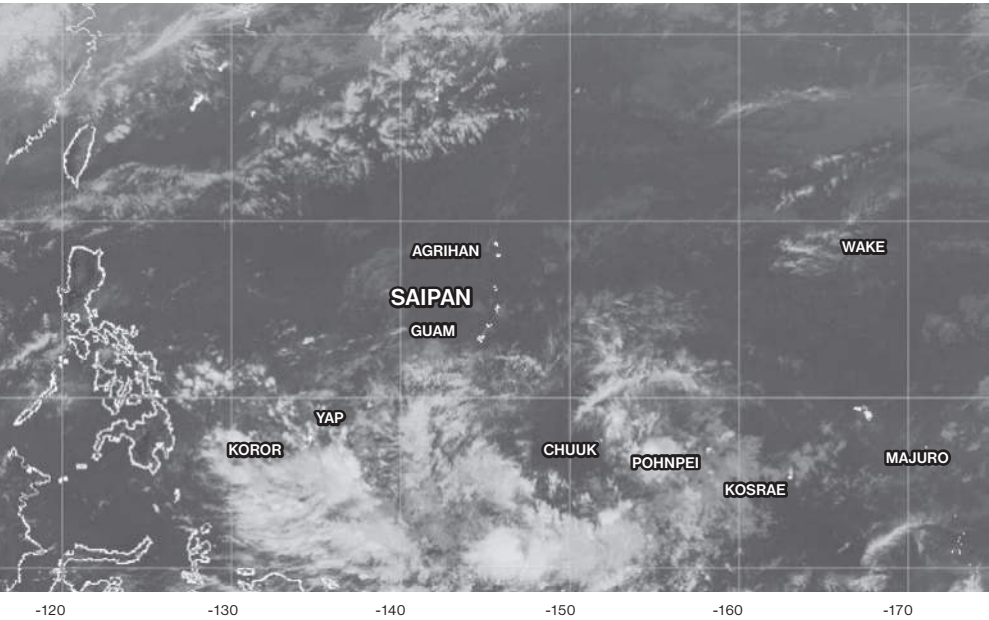
As war in Ukraine rages on and Ukrainians valiantly fight to protect their homeland, the cyber war in the United States has been happening for decades. The most recent alarms over Russian cyberattacks are just another battle to be considered in the cyber arena.

Should Americans be concerned about their gasoline, food or energy supplies? No more so than they were last month or last year. The biggest threats come when known vulnerabilities are not immediately resolved and when people let down their cybersecurity guard and allow bad actors in.

Then the worst-case scenario may become our reality.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers	
87°	76°	87°	78°	85°	76°	86°	77°	86°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:54 AM, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly clear skies and isolated showers are present across the Marianas. The Ipan and Ritidian buoys show seas between 8 and 9 feet with an eleven second period. Altimetry passes show seas around 10 feet to the east of the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.


- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



onds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	AM Thunderstorms	30 / 25 °F	
Palau	Scattered Thunderstorms	28 / 25 °F	
Yap	PM Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	28 / 26 °F	
Pohnpei	Scattered Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F	
Kosrae	Isolated Thunderstorms	30 / 27 °F	
Majuro	Scattered Thunderstorm	29 / 26 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	05:54 AM	18:34 PM
Saturday	05:53 AM	18:34 PM
Sunday	05:53 AM	18:34 PM
Monday	05:52 AM	18:35 PM
Tuesday	05:52 AM	18:35 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	06:09	18:31 PM	-
Saturday	06:47	19:22 PM	-
Sunday	07:24	20:12 PM	-
Monday	08:02	21:04 PM	-
Tuesday	08:43	21:55 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	24 / 18 °F	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	15 / 3 °F	
Hong Kong	PM Showers	21 / 13 °F	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	27 / 22 °F	
London	Partly Cloudy	9 / 0 °F	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	22 / 13 °F	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	34 / 37 °F	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	20 / 14 °F	
Miami	M Showers	28 / 23 °F	
New York	AM Clouds/PM Sun	14 / 3 °F	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	13 / 4 °F	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	4 / 1 °F	
Busan	Light Rain	13 / 7 °F	
Rome	Light Rain	15 / 7 °F	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	21 / 6 °F	
San Francisco	Sunny	17 / 9 °F	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	15 / 0 °F	
Tokyo	AM Rain	12 / 3 °F	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy/Wind	14 / 2 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
01:48 AM	Low Tide	0.20	
07:57 AM	High Tide	1.91	
2:20 PM	Low Tide	0.44	
8:05 PM	High Tide	1.86	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 28, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:40AM	7:20AM	1, 3, 5	UA116	5:00AM	5:45AM	1, 3, 5
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	2, 4, 6, 7	UA116	8:00AM	8:45AM	6, 7
				UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	2, 4
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:35AM	8:35AM	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	R110	10:35PM	4:35AM+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:05AM+1	5 via Palau
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
UA117/183	6:40AM	9:10PM	1, 3, 5 via Guam	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/193	6:40AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/116	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	2, 4, 6, 7 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				UA184/116	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
RS112	3:15PM	7:00PM	3, 6	UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 7 via Guam
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	4, 7	UA184/116	10:55pm	8:46am+1	6 via Guam
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3	RS111	8:15AM	1:35PM	3, 6
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	3
7C3451	2:00PM	5:20PM	3, 7	TW9307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 7
				OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	8:00AM	1:00PM	3, 7				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily				
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri Daily	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM		1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily	1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri Daily				
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM		TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
GUAM TO ROTA				2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable				
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily				
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Probable cause found against man accused of smuggling 4.9 lbs of ‘ice’

The Superior Court has found probable cause to try a man accused of smuggling 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine, or ‘ice,’ into the CNMI.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho found probable cause last Wednesday to try Zhang Yuzhu, 49, for the charges of importation of contraband, trafficking of controlled substance, and illegal possession of a controlled substance following a probable cause hearing.

After the hearing, Zhang was ordered to return to court on April 4, at 9am for his arraignment before Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja. He was later remanded back to Department of Corrections custody.

Zhang, who appeared under DOC custody, was represented by assistant public defender Vina Seelam, while assistant attorney general Steven Kessel appeared on behalf of the government.

According to court documents, Customs officer Franklin Sablan was doing routine inspection on a large parcel addressed to Zhang at approximately 10am on March 19. Inside the parcel, Sablan saw three wooden cases containing chinaware inside.

Upon further inspection of the wooden cases, Sablan said he noticed a square object wrapped in duct tape under the chinaware inside the wooden case. While examining the object, the officer noticed white crystalline substance spilling onto the wooden case. This prompted Sablan to contact the Bureau of Contraband Enforcement. Minutes later, BCE personnel arrived at the scene and took over the investigation.

At approximately 12pm, the parcel was transferred to Zhang’s address in Garapan.

Around the same time, Customs BCE teams established surveillance operations at the U.S. Post Office in Garapan. At around 12:49pm, surveillance teams observed a blue Toyota Yaris owned by Zhang arrive at the post office. Moments later, surveillance teams observed Zhang leave the post office carrying the parcel. Members of the surveillance team then approached and secured Zhang along with the parcel and his vehicle.

In his vehicle, officers found 19 small clear plastic baggies containing white crystalline substances that yielded a presumptive positive result for methamphetamine, weighing at approximately 26.3 gross grams. *(Kimberly B. Esmores)*

ACADEMIC HONORS

The following Saipan International School students are being honored for their academic performances for Semester One.

HONOR’S LIST
Recognizes outstanding academic achievement of all students in grades 6-12 who have a semester grade point average of 3.40-3.69. Grade point averages are rounded to the hundredth place only. Therefore, an average of 3.38 does not round up to a 3.40.

Grade 10
Aubrey Castro
Audrey Castro
Mark Chavez
Minseong Kim
Taekyoung Kim
Jayden Shin
Jinie Thompson

Grade 11
Dongkyeon Kang

HEADMASTER’S LIST
Recognizes outstanding academic achievement of all students in grades 6-12 who have a semester grade point average of 3.70-4.00. Grade point averages are rounded to the hundredth place only. Therefore, an average of 3.68 does not round up to a 3.70.

Grade 12
Matthew Berline
Susan Chen
Hyunmin Cho
Julianne Florencondia
Hall
Cevina Hwang
Hyeonbin Jeong
Joobin Kim
Seunghyun Kim
Sean Lee
Kuu Nishimura
Hyeonjae Park
Rachel Shin
Jimin Woo
James Zeng

Grade 1
Vaihina Lei Mercado
Aughenbaugh
Jihyun Lee
Sunnyul Park
Theo Cabrera Rabago
Aiyani Magnofna Rios
Darren Wu
Micaela Zevallos

Grade 2
Carver Camacho Gross
Gabriel Walsh

Grade 3
Tristan Bertocini
Hailey Park
Nathaniel Roberto

Grade 4
Quido Jambor
Carlina Maras
Matt Zhu
Yutaro Kitagawa

Grade 5
Elizabeth Culp
Michael Guintu
Yewon Huh

Grade 6
Matthew Hwang
Taiga Namai-Scoggins
Jehyun Yoon

Grade 7
Allen Cabrera
Keylie Claveria
Phoenix Gross

Grade 8
Ben Blanco
Julie Chavez
Jungwon Huh

Grade 9
Mark Cao
Kaithlyn Chavez
Jun Seo Kim
Charlie Wei Li
Christian Newman
William Sosa
Jacky Zhen

Grade 10
Aubrey White
Sohyun Yoon


Grade 7
Aiden Camacho
Brendan DeRocher
Daniel Olopai Joab
Moshe Sikkell
Nason Wessel
Jason Yu
Zi Hao Zhou

Grade 8
Irin Chung
Hunter DeRocher
Scarlett Kim
Dong Gyu Lee
Dong Hyun Lee
Linda Li
Haedam Park
Hoo Wang

Grade 9
Sophia Brasuell
Martha Culp
Omari Olopai Joab
Kwanghee Lim
Milrose Magno
Cerys Meredith-Stewart

Grade 11
Francine Asedillo
Tiana Cabrera
Linxi Cai
Richard Castro
Xin Chen
Samuel Culp

Grade 12
Matthew Berline
Susan Chen
Hyunmin Cho
Julianne Florencondia
Hall
Cevina Hwang
Hyeonbin Jeong
Joobin Kim
Seunghyun Kim
Sean Lee
Kuu Nishimura
Hyeonjae Park
Rachel Shin
Jimin Woo
James Zeng



Office of the Public Auditor

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: March 25, 2022 Closing Date: April 8, 2022

POSITION:
AUDITOR I

EXAMINATION NO.
OPA-22-001

For more information, please visit our website at www.opacnmi.com or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Garapan. Applicants are required to complete the OPA Employment Application form.



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

ITB22-CHCC/HDP-012

HEALTH DISPARITIES PROGRAM (HDP)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 4TH, 2022 TIME: 10:00 AM (CHST)

“LEASE OF VEHICLE”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATIONS.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



AMENDMENT

NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 05, 2022 at 9:30AM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Conference Room, in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

To minimize the threat of COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of all, virtual public participation will continue and encouraged via video conferencing through Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/6706648315> (Meeting ID: 6706648315) or join via telephone by calling the DCRM office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance and most updated information as Zoom meeting access code may change.

AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of January 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW
 - CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2022-015 Project: RESOURCES MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION (RMIC) RESUMPTION OF ROCK QUARRY PROJECT
Applicant: JOAQUIN M. MANGLONA
RMIC is proposing to resume the rock crushing and rock quarry operations. The project includes extracting raw corals and limestone materials. The project site is located on public land identified as Lot No. 069 A 01, measuring approximately 20,000 square meters.
 - Agencies’ Discussion
 - Agencies’ Final Determination
- OTHER MATTERS
 - Proposed revisions to NMIAC Chapter 15-10 affecting permit application and amendment procedures
 - Authorization for DCRM Director to promulgate proposed regulations
- ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ RICHARD V. SALAS
Director, DCRM

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: Dynamic Core Group, Inc. dba Shirley’s Coffee Shop
THE POSITION: Accountant
JOB DESCRIPTION: Prepare and review monthly budget to actual variances and cash flow sources and uses of funds and ensure compliance with approved budgets; Analyze daily recording of revenue and expenditures for correct account classification in accordance with guidelines, generally accepted accounting principles and regulatory requirements; Review all financial transactions entered in the general and subsidiary ledgers ensuring that all costs (labor, materials, overhead, and costs) are completely and accurately recorded in the company’s accounting system; Record daily business transactions and prepare billing statements to customers and clients; Prepare costing of products; Review and summarizes business reports; Makes financial recommendations to management; Responsible for budget control; Monitors and facilitates various payments to suppliers, vendors, and process payments; Review and analyze monthly operating report on activities and resources in support of compiled daily revenues and expenditures, aging reports for receivables and payables and profit and loss accounts; Review and summarize business reports and all documents based on results of analytics review; Investigate causes of variances and prepare report for management information; Prepare periodic tax filings (monthly gross receipt tax, corporate income tax returns, FICA, and EWR Quarterly Reports); Computes and prepare bi-weekly or semi-monthly payrolls for employees; Interact management decisions, particularly involving financial decisions to improve business operations; Monitor on a regular basis the status of inventory stocks on hand and coordinate with chefs and purchasing officer regarding propriety of actual charges; Implement strict adherence to established internal control systems and procedures; Prepare yearly financial statements (Balance Sheets and Income Statements).

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION: Must have a Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting
EXPERIENCE: Must have at least sixty (60) months of relevant work experience as an Accountant

JOB SITE: Hagoi Road, Talaya Avenue, Susupe, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

HOW TO APPLY: Submit or mail your application letter, together with a comprehensive professional resume, and supporting credentials including, but are not limited to, employment certificates to:

EDGARDO S. MACARIO
General Manager
DYNAMIC CORE GROUP, INC. DBA SHIRLEY’S COFFEE SHOP

Office Address: Hagoi Road, Talaya Avenue, Susupe
Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 504580, Saipan, MP 96950
Email Address: puy_macario@shirleyscoffeeshopsaipan.com
Telephone Number: 1(670) 235-5379

33 Hopwood students are inducted to honor society



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hopwood Middle School's National Junior Honor Society members, inductees, administrators, staff, NJHS advisers, faculty council members, and special guests pose after the ceremony at The Kevin's Restaurant of Aqua Resort Club.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hopwood Middle School's National Junior Honor Society officers: From left, Zack I. Camacho, Kianna Rae Palacios, Frances Louise D. Hernandez, Mark Ryan Costales, James Mercader, Hayden Romeo Igisomar, and Damien Alfred S. Santos.

Hopwood Middle School inducted 33 new members of the prestigious National Junior Honor Society last Thursday, March 24, at The Kevin's Restaurant of Aqua Resort Club.

The induction's inspirational guest speaker, Jonathan Aguon, compared the students to a pencil that must sharpen their skills to become better individuals and correct any mistakes they might make. He also said that like the core of a pencil, the most important part of every student is always what is inside and on every surface they are used on, they must leave their mark.

Aguon, who was an active member of the Honor Society when he was a student, currently serves as the principal of Marianas High School and is the youngest Public School System administrator in the CNMI. He has a passion for education and strives to work toward innovation and continuous improvement. He helped found Da'ok Academy.

According to NJHS Hopwood Middle School chapter adviser Esco Anne Ulloa, "The greatest challenge we are facing for the past two school years is planning for club activities with the many COVID-19 requirements. Another obstacle is trying to bring students from two different sessions—Hopwood

is still having AM/PM sessions due to lack of classrooms from typhoon Yutu destruction—to complete and participate in our service projects.

Zack Camacho, Hopwood Middle School NJHS treasurer, shared the same sentiments. "Communication is a struggle. It's hard to communicate with the other members and administrators due to our school having double sessions. Being a part of NJHS taught me that even though I've had struggles, there was always a way to deal with them. I have learned a variety of life skills and was taught the importance of being a good leader. I've also learned that being a leader comes with many responsibilities. I learned that there's always ways to work through or around obstacles, and that can be applied to other things."

Hopwood Middle School principal Victorino Borja gave the welcoming remarks. Vice principals Karen Manuel and Ben Seman led the inductees in their pledge membership and gave the closing remarks.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada, NJHS Faculty Council members and advisers, and Hopwood teachers, staff, and parents graced the induction ceremony.

The NJHS is an international student organization that consists of

chapters in middle schools. It is estimated that more than one million students participate in NJHS activities worldwide. NJHS chapters are found in all 50 states, U.S. territories, and around the world.

NJHS members and 2022 inductees

OFFICERS

President – James Mercader
Vice President – Mark Ryan Costales
Secretary – Kianna Rae Palacios
Treasurer – Zack I. Camacho
Historian – Frances Louise D. Hernandez
PRO – Damien Alfred S. Santos

CURRENT MEMBERS

Hayden Romeo Igisomar
Kaye Anne Costales
Sarah Islam

Alexa Ralene Panganiban
Rafael N. Pascual
John Peter N. Quidato
Princess Nicole B. Rigua
Simon Roy P. Romero
Jheams Cyron A. Sagana

2021-2022 INDUCTEES

8th Grade

Terresa Lin Ahn
Rondelle Nino Apostol
Aron G. Ares
Alinda Rose R. Attao
Maria Corazon A. Batallones
Clyve Jairus De Guzman
Jan Andrei D. Dumagan
Zhendrix G. Jandoc
Enoch Bern T. Pamintuan
Hope Bonniemae T. Sagana
Yvess M. Tamayo
Miragrace Rose C. Tupas
Laura Wang

7th Grade

Rhian Courtney G. Alfonso
Daniella Faith D. Batinggal
Nowrin A. Bhuiyan
Miss Suraiya A. Dristy
Jose Jesus R. Iguel
Ha'ane Bernace A. Manibusan
Daniel Josh B. Pelayo
Tristan Joshua Que
Alyana Marie Rotap
Alex Yang Xiong

6th Grade

Charlotte Amano
Evan McLaren Carlo Cabrera
Sandra T. Chargualaf
Walter Josh N. Clave
Raven Pascual
Maria Susana N. Quidato
Alexis Danielle M. Salundaguit
Carlin Mei L. Santos
Ricky Tang
Marilet Faye M. Tuazon (*PR, Saipan Tribune*)

GHD donates \$2,500 for Red Cross Gala

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Gutteridge, Haskins, & Davey, or GHD, an engineering firm that has been on Saipan for over 30 years, handed over a \$2,500 check Wednesday to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter that will go toward the chapter's first "Red Cross Gala" on April 23 at the Kensington Hotel Saipan.

Andre Tenorio, a civil engineer and office manager at GHD, said the company has been partners with the Red Cross-NMI Chapter back when the company was still Winslow & Kelly, before they merged with GHD. "A lot of our former office managers or principals were board members of the Red Cross here. ... We've been contributing to the Red Cross for the longest time and we're not going to change it," Tenorio added.

This donation makes GHD a "People's Choice" sponsor for the Red Cross Gala.

John Hirsh, executive director of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, described GHD as a long-time supporter of the American Red Cross. "They've been supporting us for over 20 years. ... They're one of the premier engineering companies here in the Northern Mariana Islands



GHD, an engineering firm that has been on Saipan for over 30 years, donates \$2,500 to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter at the GHD office in Garapan. Present were the GHD staff Andre Tenorio, Tom Deleon Guerrero, and Crispina Bahillo, to name a few. The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter members present were executive director John Hirsh and board members Bobby Cruz, and Patty Palacios.

and they do a lot of community work. One of their principals has served on the Red Cross board here on Saipan. When he relocated to Guam, he also was on the Red Cross board there. So they're very focused on supporting the community, supporting our people. And again, we asked them for support this year, and they stepped up and were very generous."

When asked how close they are to their \$80,000 fundraising goal, Hirsh said, "We're very close. We're pretty

much sold out—there aren't too many seats available in our event now."

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter's Red Cross Gala is "a night to raise critically needed financial resources for the Red Cross-NMI Chapter. It's an evening to celebrate and recognize our frontline stars and heroes for working tirelessly to serve our community throughout the pandemic." A link to the fundraiser's information can be found at www.redcross.org/nmigala.

HOPE launches framework for problem gambling services

The Hinemlo O'hala Para Enteramenti, HOPE Recovery Center under the Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation program, under the Office of the Governor, continues to take steps to initiate their services on problem gambling, which they have been working on since 2018.

Two of its clinical staff have completed their problem gambling certification studies and are ready to start their clinical hours toward their certification.

As the month is recognized for problem gambling awareness to both raise public awareness and help individuals and families that are struggling with gambling addiction, it must be emphasized that although problem gambling is widely known



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation Program special assistant Yvette R. Sablan, staff of the HOPE Recovery Center, Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, officials of the CNMI Drug Court Division, the CNMI Board of Parole, the Office of Adult Probation, the Division of Youth Services, the Community Guidance Center, the Office of the Public Defender, and the CNMI Superior Court meet with Problem Gambling specialist Roger Humble to discuss problem gambling in the CNMI, which is a diagnosable and treatable disease.

as the "hidden addiction," it is a diagnosable and treatable disease.

"After four years of waiting out and working through our challenges with Super Typhoon Yutu and the COVID-19 quarantine and directives, we were finally able to get Mr. Roger Humble, CSAC, CGAC, to come out to the CNMI and help the HOPE Recovery Center to build and launch its structure and framework for Problem Gambling services," said special assistant Yvette R. Sablan. "After his first week, we have incorporated a gambling screening tool within our biopsychosocial assessment and are prepared to offer an educational course to our HOPE residents. Additionally, we had our first stakeholders meeting to seek partnership and collaboration on this mission. We hope to get everyone on board to start screening for problem gambling within their respective services and eventually work on building professional capacity toward providing educational courses within their agency and onward to the community.

"There is still much work ahead to better understand and be able to recognize gambling addiction, but we will be working through the consultation of Mr. Humble, and we anticipate to have

data and be ready for next year's Problem Gambling Awareness month. By then, we also hope to have sponsors for public awareness events and activities," added Sablan.

Dorene Kintol, clinical manager at the HOPE Recovery Center, said, "Gambling addiction disorder is taboo in our community. No one admittedly talks about their personal or familial struggles with playing cards, playing poker, or sports betting because 1) it's their money and 2) if it's not affecting you, mind your business. However, as the addiction progresses, it consequently impacts them personally, interpersonally, and socially. The HOPE Recovery Center is working toward implementing prevention and clinical intervention services to address the hidden addictive disorder."

"It has been a great honor to be in the CNMI during Problem Gambling Awareness Month to help assess the impact and need for gambling services on the island. I'm very confident that the staff at the HOPE program have the will and the expertise to start gambling services for those that have been affected by problem gambling and to help end the suffering caused by gambling disorders," said Humble. (PR)

Tina and Leila: Unique fundraiser honors the Marianas' farming, ranching heritage

In a nod to the long and colorful history of ranching and farming in the Northern Marianas, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rep. Christina "Tina" Sablan (D-Saipan) and her running mate, Rep. Leila Fleming Staffler (D-Saipan), are inviting the public to a unique campaign fundraiser on April 9, from 10am to 2pm, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion on Beach Road, Saipan.

The public will have the chance to attend a livestock event and win live cattle, pigs, ducks and goats. The grand prize is a cow worth \$1,600.

"We wanted to recognize the many farmers and ranchers whose hard work has put

food on local tables for generations," said Sablan.

"Growing up on Tinian, I saw first-hand how hard farmers and ranchers worked," said Staffler. "We thought this would be a fun way to honor that heritage, and have a family friendly event for the whole community. After all, who wouldn't like to win a cow or goat in a raffle?"

The highlight of the event is the livestock raffle. Prizes include:

- 2 live cows valued at \$1,600
- 2 roosters valued at \$300
- 2 pigs valued at \$200
- 3 ducks valued at \$150

ued at \$150

- 1 goat at \$100 value
- 2 chickens at \$100 value

Individuals do not have to be present to win. Winners can choose between cash or livestock. If cash is preferred, 10% of the auction price will go to the event. If livestock is preferred, the winner is responsible for coordinating the retrieval of the animal from the event site. Non-livestock prizes such as an electric fan, rice cooker, cases of soda, and more will also be raffled off.

The event will additionally feature a petting zoo for kids of all ages. Food plates and drinks will also be sold at the event.

To purchase raffle tickets, community members may contact Tina and Leila's Committee to Elect at fundraising@sablanstaffler.com or call/text 670-484-DEMS. Raffle tickets for the livestock raffle are priced at \$5 each and can be purchased using cash or electronic payment. Electronic payments are accepted via Paypal @votetinasablan, email link: tinasablan@gmail.com, with transaction screenshots for reference. \$1 raffle tickets will be sold on the day of the event for non-livestock prizes.

Sablan and Staffler are the Democratic candidates for the 2022 CNMI gubernatorial election. (PR)

Family group to lead autism awareness drive

In celebration of April being Autism Awareness Month, the Autism Family Support Group, which is a parent-led group, is happy to announce that they will be coordinating events for the month of April to raise awareness of those impacted by autism and to support children under the spectrum.

Autism Spectrum Disorder, or ASD, is a complex developmental disability that affects an individual's social skills, communication, and

behavioral challenges. The autism experience is different for everyone. Raising awareness can help our community become aware and have a better understanding of those under the spectrum.

April 2 is Autism Awareness Day and the group will host a "Walk for Autism" at the Oleai beach pathway across Modern Stationary at 4:30pm. Every Wednesday for the month of

April is "Wear Blue Wednesday." On April 24, the group will have a Fun in the Park Day at the Sugar King Park at 4pm and children under the spectrum will get a free treat while supplies last. On April 30, we will close out the celebration with "Art for Autism" that allows individuals to share their art pertaining to autism.

The Autism Family Support Group consists of par-

ents and families that continue to be the No. 1 advocates for their children with autism. The group provides peer support for one another that allows parents to share experiences, obstacles and strategies. Many parents have expressed that they are happy to connect with families that go through similar experiences. Our group collaborates its efforts and dedication with the Family 2 Family Health Information Center. (PR)



JKPL parking lot closed today, tomorrow

In order to accommodate and prepare for the 3rd Annual Community Mobile Information Literacy Fair, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's parking lot will be closed this Friday, April 1, 2022, and Saturday, April 2, 2022.

Enjoy your public library's free resources by visiting our website at www.cnmilib.

org and like/follow JKPL's Facebook page @joetenkiyupubliclibrary, Instagram @joetenkiyupubliclibrary, TikTok @jkpl670, Twitter @JoetenKiyu, and YouTube: joetenkiyupubliclibrary to see the progress and programs JKPL has worked so hard to offer for our community. Contact (670) 235-7323/7322

(READ) or visit your friendly Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Hours of operation: Open Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 6pm, Friday 1:30pm to 7pm, and Saturday 9:30am to 4pm. Closed Sundays, Mondays, and Holidays.

Visit or contact your friendly Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library on Rota

(670) 532-7329. Hours of operation: Open Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:30pm and Saturday from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Closed Sundays and holidays.

Visit or contact your friendly Tinian Public Library at (670) 433-0504. Hours of operation: Open Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Closed Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. (PR)

Summit at PIC caps Women's Month celebration

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI Women's Association capped the celebration of Women's Month in the CNMI with the 8th Annual CNMI Women's Summit last Tuesday, March 29, at Pacific Islands Club Saipan, that was also simultaneously held online via Zoom from 8:30am to 3pm.

The theme for this year, "Gender Equality: Key to Sustainable Development," also highlights this year's national theme, "Break the Bias," and was proclaimed on March 1, 2022 at the proclamation signing held at the Governor's Office.

The summit, sponsored yearly by the CNMI Women's Association, is co-sponsored by the Women's Affairs Office under the Office of the Governor, and in collaboration with key community and network partners.

This summit's presentations began with "Summary of Sustainable Development Goal #5," and "Women & Culture" that was presented by Marjorie Daria, board

member of 500 Sails, a non-profit organization that seeks to restore the maritime traditions in the Marianas.

The next topic was "Women & Health: Reproductive Health, Key to Gender Equality," by Dr. Lily Muldoon, Medical Director of Public Health and Emergency Medicine physician at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Rep. Sheila J. Babauta (D-Saipan) spoke on "Women

& Peace: Leading the Conversation on Militarization in the CNMI," and how she learned about

the ongoing militarization of the Pacific as an adult and the importance of effective communication. "Women have always led the conversation about militarization and it's important that we are able to articulate it when we speak with local, regional, and leaders from around the world," she said.

There were also three breakout sessions after the lunch break that covered Group 1: Women & Culture, Group 2: Women & Health, and Group 3: Women and Peace.



World

White House: Intel shows Putin misled by advisers on Ukraine

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. intelligence officials have determined that Russian President Vladimir Putin is being misinformed by advisers about his military's poor performance in Ukraine, accord-

ing to the White House. The advisers are scared to tell him the truth, the intel says.

The findings, recently declassified, indicate that Putin is aware of the situation on information coming to him and

there now is persistent tension between him and senior Russian military officials.

The U.S. believes Putin is being misled not only about his military's performance but also "how the Russian econo-

my is being crippled by sanctions because, again, his senior advisers are too afraid to tell him the truth," White House communications director Kate Bedingfield said Wednesday.

Earlier, President Joe Biden

said in an exchange with reporters that he could not comment on the intelligence.

The administration is hopeful that divulging the finding could help prod Putin to reconsider his options in Ukraine, according to a U.S. official. The official was not authorized to comment and spoke on the condition of anonymity. The war has ground to a bloody stalemate in much of the country, with heavy casualties and Russian troop morale sinking as Ukrainian forces and volunteers put up an unexpectedly stout defense.

But the publicity could also risk further isolating Putin, who U.S. officials have said seems at least in part driven by a desire to win back Russian prestige lost by the fall of the Soviet Union.

"What it does is underscore that this has been a strategic blunder for Russia," Bedingfield said of the intelligence finding. "But I'm not going to characterize how ... Vladimir Putin might be thinking about this."

Meanwhile, Biden told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during a 55 minute call that an additional \$500 million in direct aid for Ukraine was on its way. It's the latest burst in American

assistance as the Russian invasion grinds on.

Asked about the latest intelligence, Secretary of State Antony Blinken suggested that a dynamic within the Kremlin exists where advisers are unwilling to speak to Putin with candor.

"One of the Achilles' heels of autocracies is that you don't have people in those systems that speak truth to power or have the ability to speak truth to power, and I think that's what we're seeing in Russia," Blinken told reporters during a stop in Algeria on Wednesday.

The unidentified official did not detail underlying evidence for how U.S. intelligence made its determination.

The intelligence community has concluded that Putin was unaware that his military had been using and losing conscripts in Ukraine. They also have determined he is not fully aware of the extent to which the Russian economy is being damaged by economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. and allies.

The findings demonstrate a "clear breakdown in the flow of accurate information" to Putin, and show that Putin's senior advisers are "afraid to tell him the truth," the official said.

Russia bombards areas where it pledged to scale back



AP
A soldier walks the amid the destruction caused after shelling of a shopping center last March 21 in Kyiv, Ukraine, Wednesday, March 30, 2022.

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Russian forces bombarded areas around Kyiv and another city just hours after pledging to scale back operations in those zones to promote trust between the two sides, Ukrainian authorities said Wednesday.

The shelling—and intensified Russian attacks on other parts of the country—tempered optimism about any progress in the talks aimed at ending the punishing war.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he stressed in a conversation with U.S. President Joe Biden that

the war is at a "turning point" and renewed his longstanding request for more help to resist the Russian invasion.

"If we really are fighting for freedom and in defense of democracy together, then we have a right to demand help in this difficult turning point. Tanks, aircraft, artillery systems. Freedom should be armed no worse than tyranny," Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address to the nation, which he delivered standing in the dark outside the dimly lit presidential offices in Kyiv. He thanked the U.S. for an additional \$500 million in aid that was

announced Wednesday.

Meanwhile, talks between Ukraine and Russia were set to resume Friday by video, according to the head of the Ukrainian delegation, David Arakhamia. But there seemed to be little faith that a resolution would emerge anytime soon. The Russian military reneged on its pledge Tuesday to de-escalate near the capital and the northern city of Chernihiv in order to "increase mutual trust and create conditions for further negotiations."

The announcement was met with deep suspicion from Zelenskyy and the West. And

soon after, Ukrainian officials reported that Russian shelling hit homes, stores, libraries and other civilian sites in and around Chernihiv and on the outskirts of Kyiv. Russian troops also stepped up their attacks on the Donbas region in the east and around the city of Izyum, which lies on a key route to the Donbas, after re-deploying units from other areas, the Ukrainian side said.

Olexander Lomako, secretary of the Chernihiv city council, said the Russian announcement turned out to be "a complete lie."

Police: 6 killed in Pennsylvania pileup of 80 vehicles

POTTSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—A deadly pileup involving 80 vehicles on a Pennsylvania interstate during a snow squall killed six people, state police said Wednesday.

"There were 6 fatalities involved in this crash. Identities of the victims will be released once death notifications have been made to their families," state police in Frackville said.

Police also said the crash during "an active snow squall" Monday around 10:30 a.m. and involved 39 commercial vehicles and 41 passenger vehicles, for a total of 80, which is greater than earlier estimates of 40 to 60 vehicles.

Officials said the stretch of I-81 opened at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday after crews finished



AP
Semi trucks are strewn about I-81 in Foster Township, as tow trucks respond after Monday's deadly multi-vehicle crash on both I-81 northbound lanes on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, in Schuylkill County, Pa.

clearing the crash site, state police tweeted. The southbound side had reopened hours after Monday's multivehicle wreck.

A state incident report noted 24 people were taken to four hospitals after the crash, which was captured in videos posted

on social media that showed drivers and passengers lining the snowy road and jumping out of the way as the cascade of crashes unfolded.

In one video, an out of control tractor-trailer smashed into a large dump truck turning it nearly 180 degrees, another large truck caught fire and spewed black smoke into the air, and an SUV struck a passenger car sending it spinning narrowly past a person standing on the shoulder in snow and fog.

Some vehicles were mostly burned and others melted onto the highway, hampering efforts to clear the scene. Authorities also said they needed to go through each vehicle to make sure there were no human remains.

WORLD BRIEFS

S. Korea conducts rocket launch days after North's ICBM test

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea said it conducted its first successful launch of a solid-fuel rocket Wednesday in what it called a major step toward acquiring a space surveillance capability amid rising animosities with rival North Korea. The launch came six days after North Korea carried out its first intercontinental ballistic missile test since 2017 in an apparent attempt to expand its weapons arsenal and increase pressure on the Biden administration amid stalled disarmament talks. The South Korean-built solid-propellant rocket soared into the sky before releasing a dummy satellite in space, according to photos released by Seoul's Defense Ministry. A ministry statement said Defense Minister Suh Wook and other senior officials observed the liftoff.

Number of Ukraine refugees passes worst-case U.N. estimate

MEDYKA, Poland (AP)—The number of people who have fled Ukraine since Russian troops invaded has surpassed 4 million, the United Nations reported Wednesday as shelling continued in places where Moscow had vowed to ease its military operations. "I do not know if we can still believe the Russians," refugee Nikolay Nazarov, 23, said as he crossed Ukraine's border into Poland with his wheelchair-bound father. Despite Russia's announcement during talks on Tuesday that its forces would ease their assault near Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, and elsewhere, Nazarov said he expects "more escalation" in the country's east, including the city he and his father fled. "That is why we cannot go back to Kharkiv," he said. "We are afraid of a new phase of war in eastern Ukraine." Nazarov, like other refugees interviewed by The Associated Press, echoed the opinion of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. In his nightly video address, Zelenskyy said that given what was happening on the ground, there was no reason to believe Russia's statement about reducing military activity near Kyiv and in Chernihiv, a besieged northern city.

Off The Wall

Braces, sex pills, fake eyeball among bizarre NJ beach trash

LONG BRANCH, N.J. (AP)—Volunteers picked up a record amount of trash from New Jersey's beaches last year, with plastic items dominating the haul, and bizarre castoffs including male enhancement pills, a set of

braces, a glow-in-the-dark condom and a Turkish Airlines hygiene kit found on the sand as well.

The Clean Ocean Action coastal environmental group released its annual report Wednesday on the result of

the prior year's beach sweeps. Over 10,000 volunteers picked up over half a million items along the state's 127-mile (204-kilometer) coastline in cleanups held in spring and fall of 2021.

And some of it was just

head-scratching, if not stomach-turning.

A hunk of human hair; a full set of dentures ("I TOLD you not to take your teeth to the beach!"); a thong; a used narcan kit (used to revive drug overdose victims); several marijuana bags (empty, of course); a bullet casing, and a fake eyeball were among items picked up.

There also was a parking ticket; a lottery ticket; a glue stick; a mini-refrigerator; a toilet brush; a TV remote control; a Mason jar filled with (we hope) liquor; a plastic monkey, and a set of rosary beads, possibly from

someone praying for the cast of characters that left all this behind. And someone found a message in a bottle.

"We don't know what it read, although I hope it would have said, 'Don't litter,'" said Cindy Zipf, Clean Ocean Action's executive director.

All told, 513,605 items were collected last year, the most ever since the beach sweeps began in 1985.

"It's disappointing to see it increase," Zipf said. "We keep hoping the numbers will go down. And the weird stuff just keeps getting weirder."

More than 82% of the total haul was plastic items or

pieces. Bottle caps or cup lids reached a record number of 69,454, as did food and candy wrappers or bags, at 58,589.

The cleanup data also pinpointed seasonal shifts in the type and amount of litter on New Jersey's beaches: 67 out of 95 categories were significantly higher in fall than in spring, including dog waste bags; plastic bottles; smoking-related litter; plastic food takeout litter, and ice cream spoons or sticks.

Fewer face masks were found in fall as compared to spring, but over 3,600 discarded masks were left behind or washed up on the sand.

Feds: Man smuggled 1,700 reptiles from Mexico, Hong Kong

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Southern California man is accused of smuggling more than 1,700 reptiles—including baby crocodiles and Mexican bearded lizards—into the U.S. since 2016, authorities said Thursday.

Jose Manuel Perez, also known as "Julio Rodriguez," was taken into custody on Feb. 25 at the San Ysidro border crossing with Mexico.

Border patrol agents found about 60 lizards and snakes tied up in small bags, "which were concealed in the man's jacket, pants pockets, and groin area," authorities said last month. Perez allegedly told the agents that the animals were his pets.

Perez, 30, of Oxnard, has been in federal custody since then and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles on Thursday announced additional charges on a superseding indictment that also includes Perez's sister as a defendant.

Perez is scheduled to be arraigned in Los Angeles on Monday. His federal attorney in San Diego declined to comment Thursday. Some of the smuggled reptiles were protected and endangered species, authorities said.



This undated file photo provided by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection shows horned lizards found during a smuggling attempt at the San Diego, Calif., border. U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION VIA AP

Beginning January 2016, Perez and his sister, as well as others, are accused of using social media to buy and sell wildlife in the U.S. The animals, including Yucatan and Mexican box turtles, were allegedly imported from Mexico and Hong Kong without permits.

The reptiles were initially taken to Perez's home in Missouri but later shipped to Oxnard when he moved to California, authorities said. His sister assisted him in the smuggling business, prosecutors alleged, especially during times when Perez was incarcerated in the U.S.

Man touts electric unicycle as answer to high gas prices



FALL RIVER, Mass. (AP)—A Massachusetts man says he has the answer for those singing the blues about stratospheric gas prices.

Rick Madeira, of Fall River, has taken to riding his electric unicycle to work, saving on gas and cutting his commute time in the process.

"It's just more convenient and it's obviously more fun," he told The Herald News.

Madeira's Gotway Nikola

Plus, with no seat or handle bars, just places for his feet, can go 70 or 80 miles (113 or 129 kilometers) on one charge and reaches speeds of up to 40 mph (64 kph), although he rarely goes that fast.

"It literally takes me four minutes to get to work, versus about eight minutes in a vehicle," he said.

He's allowed to ride on the sidewalk, but usually sticks to the road, keeping to the shoulder


(COLIN FURZE/THE HERALD NEWS OF FALL RIVER VIA AP)

Rick Madeira, of Fall River, Mass., rides an electric unicycle Monday, March 14, 2022, in Fall River, Mass. Madeira, who has taken to riding his electric unicycle to work, saving on gas and cutting his commute time in the process, says he has the answer for those upset with high gas prices. Madeira's Gotway Nikola Plus electric unicycle, with no seat or handle bars, just places for his feet, can go 70 or 80 miles on one charge, and reaches speeds of up to 40 mph.

der when possible. He can also move to the front of the line at red lights, like cyclists, he said.

His advice to those interested in buying an electric unicycle, which sell for more than \$2,000: wear protective and reflective gear, and be respectful of pedestrians.

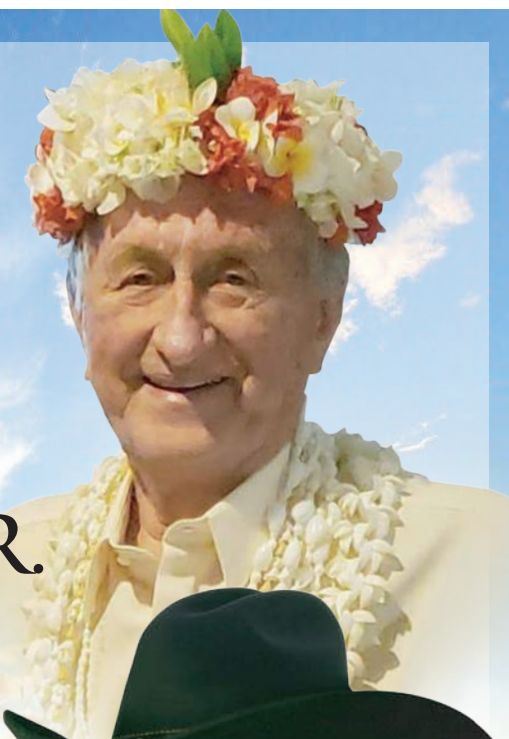
"It's the future. In 10 or 20 years, I'm sure I won't even have to bring it up," he said.



In loving memory of
† IVAN K. PROPST, JR.
 April 22, 1939 to March 22, 2022

Parents: †Ivan K. Propst and †Dorothy Paulsen Propst

Parents in law: †Zacharias Palman and †Gloria Saavedra Palman




His memories will forever be in the hearts of his:
Wife of 56 years: Juanita Palman Propst

Children/Grandchildren/Great grandchildren:

Maria "Lynn" and Jon Gersonde [*Derek and Elena (Javon and Ryusei), Austen, Danielle*]

Gloria and Vernon Perez [*Veronica, Sylvia, Yvonne*]

Edwin and Daisy Propst [*Kiana, Devin, Kaden, Logan*]



Sisters: Donna Greenlee, Ann Beasley (Gary)

He is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends throughout the U.S. mainland, CNMI, Philippines, Norway, Palau, Hawaii, and American Samoa.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at Saipan Community Church with viewing from 8am-10am followed by a memorial service.

Undangkulu na si Yu'us ma'ase, Ghilissow, Maraming salamat po, Ke kmal me sulang, Mahalo, Fa'afetai tele lava, and Thank you,

THE PROPST FAMILY

Science & Technology

Twinkle, twinkle giant star, astronomers see how far you are

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Astronomers have discovered the farthest star yet, a super-hot, super-bright giant that formed nearly 13 billion years ago at the dawn of the cosmos.

But this luminous blue star is long gone, so massive that it almost certainly exploded into bits just a few million years after emerging. Its swift demise makes it all the more incredible that an international team spotted it with observations by

the Hubble Space Telescope. It takes eons for light emitted from distant stars to reach us.

"We're seeing the star as it was about 12.8 billion years ago, which puts it about 900 million years after the Big Bang," said astronomer Brian Welch, a doctoral student at Johns Hopkins University and lead author of the study appearing in Wednesday's journal *Nature*.

"We definitely just got lucky."

He nicknamed it Earendel, an

Old English name which means morning star or rising light—"a fitting name for a star that we have observed in a time often referred to as 'Cosmic Dawn.'"

The previous record-holder, Icarus, also a blue supergiant star spotted by Hubble, formed 9.4 billion years ago. That's more than 4 billion years after the Big Bang. In both instances, astronomers used a technique known as gravitational lensing to magnify the minuscule



NASA, ESA, BRIAN WELCH (JHU), DAN COE (STSCI); IMAGE PROCESSING: NASA, ESA, ALYSSA PAGAN (STSCI) VIA AP

This image made available by NASA on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, shows the star Earendel, indicated by arrow, and the Sunrise Arc galaxy, stretching from lower left to upper right, optically bent due to a massive galaxy cluster between it and the Hubble Space Telescope which captured the light.

starlight. Gravity from clusters of galaxies closer to us—in the foreground—serve as a lens to magnify smaller objects in the background. If not for that, Icarus and Earendel would not have been discernible given their vast distances.

While Hubble has spied galaxies as far away as 300 million to 400 million years of the universe-forming Big Bang, their individual stars are impossible to pick out.

"Usually they're all smushed together ... But here, nature has given us this one star—highly, highly magnified, magnified by factors of thousands—so that we can study it," said NASA astrophysicist Jane Rigby, who took part in the study. "It's such a gift really from the universe."

Vinicius Placco of the National Science Foundation's NOIRlab in Tucson, Arizona, described the findings as "amazing work." He was not involved in the study.

Placco said based on the

Hubble data, Earendel may well have been among the first generation of stars born after the Big Bang. Future observations by the newly launched James Webb Space Telescope should provide more details, he said, and "provide us with another piece of this cosmic puzzle that is the evolution of our universe."

Current data indicate Earendel was more than 50 times the size of our sun and an estimated 1 million times brighter, outsize Icarus. Earendel's small, yet-to-mature home galaxy looked nothing like the pretty spiral galaxies photographed elsewhere by Hubble, according to Welch, but rather "kind of an awkward-looking, clumpy object." Unlike Earendel, he said, this galaxy probably has survived, although in a different form after merging with other galaxies.

"It's like a little snapshot in amber of the past," Rigby said.

Earendel may have been the

prominent star in a two-star, or binary, system, or even a triple- or quadruple-star system, Welch said. There's a slight chance it could be a black hole, although the observations gathered in 2016 and 2019 suggest otherwise, he noted.

Regardless of its company, the star lasted barely a few million years before exploding as a supernova that went unobserved as most do, Welch said. The most distant supernova seen by astronomers to date goes back 12 billion years.

The Webb telescope—100 times more powerful than Hubble—should help clarify how massive and hot the star really is, and reveal more about its parent galaxy.

By studying stars, Rigby said: "We are literally understanding where we came from because we're made up of some of that stardust."

Scientists figure out how vampire bats got a taste for blood

WASHINGTON (AP)—Scientists have figured out why vampire bats are the only mammals that can survive on a diet of just blood.

They compared the genome of common vampire bats to 26 other bat species and identified 13 genes that are missing or no longer work in vampire bats. Over the years, those gene tweaks helped them adapt to a blood diet rich in iron and protein but with minimal fats or carbohydrates, the researchers reported Friday in the journal *Science Advances*.

The bats live in South and Central America and are basically "living Draculas," said co-author Michael Hiller of Germany's Max Planck Institute. About 3 inches (8 centimeters) long with a wingspan of 7 inches (18 centimeters),

the bats bite and then lap up blood from livestock or other animals at night.

Most mammals couldn't survive on a low-calorie liquid diet of blood. Only three vampire species of the 1,400 kinds of bats can do that—the others eat mostly insects, fruit, nectar, pollen or meat, such as small frogs and fish.

"Blood is a terrible food source," said Hannah Kim Frank, a bat researcher at Tulane University, who was not involved in the study. "It's totally bizarre and amazing that vampire bats can survive on blood—they are really weird, even among bats." Some other creatures also have a taste for blood, including mosquitoes, bedbugs, leeches and fleas.

The latest work expands upon research by another

team that pinpointed three of the 13 gene losses.

"The new paper shows how different vampire bats are from even other closely related bats, which eat nectar and fruit," said Kate Langwig, a bat researcher at Virginia Tech, who had no role in the study.

With such a low-calorie diet, vampire bats can't go long without a meal. In a pinch, well-fed ones will regurgitate their food to share with a starving neighbor. They seem to keep track of who has helped them in the past, said Hiller, noting that vampire bats have complex social relationships.

"It's not a kin thing," said Tulane's Frank. "They just notice and remember: You're a good sharer, I will reward you."

TECH Q&A: A beeping computer is telling you what's gone wrong inside

Q: I dropped my Dell Inspiron laptop on a hard tile floor. Fortunately, the PC still runs properly, and I ran some diagnostic tests that found nothing wrong. But now, every time the PC starts it gives a series of five beeps that are repeated five times. Do the beeps mean something is wrong? If not, how do I get rid of the beeps?

A: The beeps a PC makes at startup are a warning code, although the meaning varies from one PC brand to another. On a Dell Inspiron laptop, five beeps means that the CMOS battery on the main circuit board has failed (see tinyurl.com/35af53tn).

CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor) is a type of computer memory chip that stores some important data — the PC's BIOS (basic input/output system), how the PC's hardware is configured and the time of day and calendar date. The chip is powered, even when your PC is turned off, by a small round, flat battery that's similar to the batteries used in car key fobs. These batteries can last for up to a decade, so many PC owners never encounter the beep warning you're hearing. But by dropping your PC, you probably caused the CMOS battery to come loose from the PC's main circuit board, triggering the warning.

If that's the case, you should be

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander, a longtime business and technology reporter at the Star Tribune, started this column in 2004 to answer readers' questions about their digital devices. Steve, who retired from the Star Tribune in 2014, is now retiring the column.



able to fix the beeping computer problem by tightening the battery-to-circuit board connection (use a pencil to push on the metal clip that holds the battery in place), or, if necessary, by replacing the battery for around \$2.

However, this fix involves opening your laptop and touching the main circuit board, which is very sensitive to static electricity (see directions and warnings for changing a CMOS battery at tinyurl.com/yc7jurdc). As a result, it might be better to let a repair shop do the work.

Q: My iPad previously sent documents to my printer using Apple's AirPrint feature, but now I get the message "No AirPrint Printers Found." What's wrong? Also, I recently discovered that I couldn't sign legal documents on my iPad. What's the solution?

A: If you've recently updated the iPad's operating system, you may also need to update your printer's

firmware (software stored on a chip) to maintain the printer's compatibility with AirPrint. Download a firmware update from the printer manufacturer's website. (See other possible fixes at tinyurl.com/2p953tmv.)

To sign legal documents on an iPad, get a legal document signing app, such as DocuSign, PandaDoc or signNow from the Apple App Store (for details, see tinyurl.com/yckvtvmw).

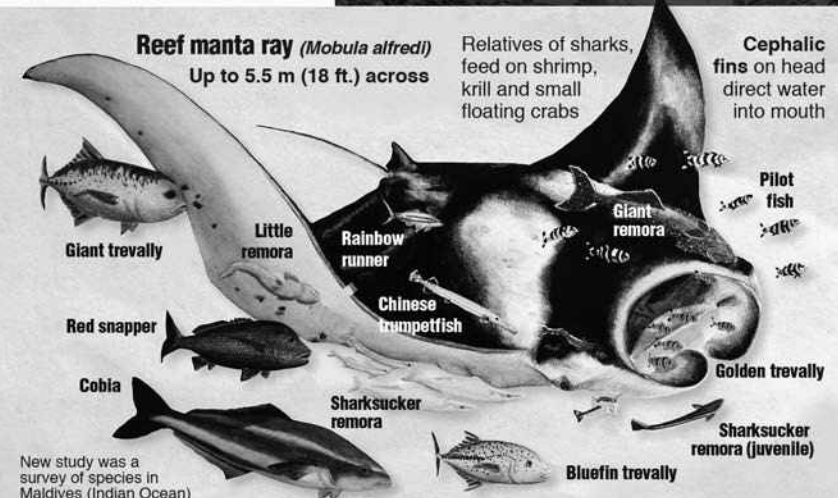
Q: I have three old PCs with Windows XP. Can I donate them to anyone?

A: Most PCs with Windows XP (introduced in 2001) are too old to donate. The World Computer Exchange, a charity that transfers used computers to developing countries, requires that donated laptop PCs be no older than 2005 and use "dual-core" or newer processor chips. Desktops must be no older than 2008 and use Intel Core "i Series" chips. (See tinyurl.com/5n8r9wr3).

Science Matters

Hitchhikers' guide to the manta rays

Various "hitchhiker" fish have been found associating with manta rays, including species not previously known to accompany the mantas.



Hitchhikers may only get protection from predators by the ray but give it no benefit (commensal relationship)

Remoras and other species clean the ray of parasites (mutualist relationship)

Source: Aimee E. Nicholson-Jack of The Manta Trust; University of Bristol Vet Science School Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service © 2021 TNS

Symbiosis: Species living together*

Mutualism Both of the organisms benefit	Commensalism One benefits; the other is unaffected	Parasitism One benefits; the other is harmed

Sometimes occasional, sometimes essential long-term association

Life & Style

Bruce Willis, diagnosed with aphasia, steps away from acting

NEW YORK (AP)—Bruce Willis is stepping away from acting after a diagnosis of aphasia, a condition that causes loss of the ability to understand or express speech, his family said Wednesday.

In a statement posted on Willis' Instagram page, the 67-year-old actor's family announced that Willis was recently diagnosed with aphasia and that it is impacting his cognitive abilities.

"As a result of this and with much consideration, Bruce is stepping away from the career that has meant so much to him," read the statement signed by Willis' wife, Emma Heming Willis, his ex-wife Demi Moore, and his five children, Rumer, Scout, Tallulah, Mabel and Evelyn.

"We are moving through this as a strong family unit, and wanted to bring his fans in because we know how much

he means to you, as you do to him," they said. "As Bruce always says, 'Live it up' and together we plan to do just that."

There are many potential causes of aphasia. It often occurs after a stroke or head injury, but can also develop gradually due to a slow-growing brain tumor or a disease that causes degenerative damage, like Alzheimer's disease. It's treated primarily with speech therapy and learning non-ver-

bal means of communication.

Willis' family didn't divulge what caused his aphasia. Representatives for the actor declined to comment.

The news about Willis, one of Hollywood's most beloved actors, immediately spread online as fans reacted. His four-decade career has amassed more than \$5 billion in box office worldwide.

Willis had been working steadily and frequently. Re-



AP
Actor Bruce Willis appears at the premiere of "Glass" in New York on Jan. 15, 2019.

nowned for films like "Die Hard," "Pulp Fiction" and "The Sixth Sense," Willis has in recent years churned out straight-to-video thrillers. Last year, he starred in a staggering eight films. Most came and went quietly, including titles like "Cosmic Sin," "Out of Death" and "Deadlock."

Most recently, Willis starred in February's "Gasoline Alley" and "A Day to Die," released in early March. Willis has already shot at least six more films due out in 2022 and 2023, including "Die Like Lovers," "Corrective Measures" and "The Wrong Place."

Brain condition sidelining Bruce Willis has many causes

A brain disorder that leads to problems with speaking, reading and writing has sidelined actor Bruce Willis and drawn attention to a little-known condition that has many possible causes.

A stroke, tumor, head injury or other damage to the language centers of the brain can cause aphasia. A brain infection or Alzheimer's disease can trigger it.

Former U.S. Rep. Gabby Giffords, wounded in a 2011 shooting, has aphasia from

that injury.

The National Aphasia Association estimates 2 million Americans are affected and nearly 180,000 get the disorder every year. Willis' family announced Wednesday that the 67-year-old actor has been diagnosed with aphasia but did not provide any details on a possible cause.

For an actor, aphasia could pose a huge challenge depending on how severe it is, said Johns Hopkins University cognitive sci-

entist Brenda Rapp, who works with people with the condition.

"You can imagine how frustrating it is if you can't find words, if you can't organize words into sentences, if you can't get your mouth to produce the sounds you want it to produce," Rapp said. "You are still yourself ... but you may not sound like yourself."

For most, the cause is a stroke that has cut off blood to part of the brain. Without

oxygen and nutrients, brain cells die, which leads to the difficulty retrieving words.

Aphasia does not affect intelligence. Some people improve dramatically in a few months. Others may need to find other ways to communicate. Speech and language therapy can help.

Researchers are looking into new types of speech therapy and noninvasive methods such as a procedure that uses magnetic pulses to stimulate brain cells. (AP)

Chris Rock opens comedy show, still 'processing' Oscar slap

BOSTON (AP)—Comedian Chris Rock performed in public Wednesday for the first time since Oscar-winning actor Will Smith slapped him for a joke about Smith's wife during the Academy Awards show.

The nighttime performance in Boston comes just three days after Smith slapped Rock on the Oscars stage, stunning the crowd at the 94th Academy Awards and those watching at home.

Rock was greeted by thunderous applause and told the

audience "I'm still kind of processing what happened," according to audio posted by the Hollywood trade outlet Variety. He also tamped down any audience expectations that he would talk at length about the slap, telling them: "If you came to hear that, I'm not ... I had like a whole show I wrote before this weekend."

"We love you," someone shouted at one point, eliciting cheers from the audience, according to the audio.

At Sunday's Oscars, Rock

had made a joke about Jada Pinkett Smith's buzzed haircut. Pinkett Smith has spoken publicly about her diagnosis of alopecia, which can cause baldness.

"Jada, I love you. 'G.I. Jane 2,' can't wait to see it," Rock said while presenting an award, comparing Pinkett Smith to Demi Moore's "G.I. Jane" character, who had a buzz cut in the 1997 film.

Smith promptly stood up from his seat at the front of the venue and took to the stage, slapping Rock across

the face before sitting back down and yelling at Rock to keep his wife's name out of his mouth.

Within an hour, Smith won best actor, receiving a standing ovation. During his five-minute acceptance speech, Smith talked about defending his family and apologized to the academy. A day later, Smith issued an apology to the comedian, to the academy and to viewers at home, saying he was "out of line" and that his actions are "not indicative of the man I want to be."

Wanda Sykes: It was sickening

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Wanda Sykes said she felt physically ill after Will Smith slapped Chris Rock across the face at the Oscars, and she's angry Smith was permitted to stay and collect his award.

Sykes, who co-hosted Sunday at the Dolby Theatre with Amy Schumer and Regina Hall, told Ellen DeGeneres in an interview to air April 7 that she missed the confrontation live as she walked between her trailer and the theater after a costume change.

"Then someone showed me on the video," Sykes said, "and I just felt so awful for my friend, Chris. It was sickening. I physically felt ill, and I'm still a little traumatized by it."

Smith, seated close to the stage during the awards show, walked up to Rock and slapped him after the comedian made a joke about Smith's wife, Jada Pinkett Smith. After he walked back to his seat, Smith cursed twice at Rock to "keep my wife's name out

your (expletive) mouth."

The room and millions watching live were stunned. Soon after, Smith won his first-ever Academy Award for playing tennis dad Richard Williams in "King Richard" and gave a tearful acceptance speech in which he apologized but not directly to Rock. That came later in a statement.

Sykes, in a video released of her interview by "The Ellen Show," said letting Smith stay and accept his award should not have happened.

"I was like, how gross is this? This is the wrong message. You assault somebody and you get escorted out the building and that's it. But for them to let him continue, I thought it was gross. I wanted to be able to run out (on stage) after he won and say, 'Uh, unfortunately, Will couldn't be here tonight.'"

Sykes said she caught up with Rock later at a party and he apologized to her.

Teen discovers mom's affair while looking at her phone

DEAR ABBY: I am 15 and have a big problem. My mom and my dad have been married a long time. I was looking through pictures on Mom's phone and found some very inappropriate and romantic texts from "Rob," her business partner. Mom forces our whole family to hang out with Rob, and my brother doesn't like him either. But anytime we bring it up, my mom yells at us and makes me cry. She wants me to be friends with Rob.

One time when we were all at a restaurant, someone asked if he was my dad. I know what she is doing with him, and I can't focus on school because of it. I think my dad knows—kind of—but I'm sure he hasn't seen the texts that I saw. I don't want to ruin my family, but I cry about it every night alone. I know my parents won't go to couples counseling, and I don't want to hurt my brother either. Any help would be very much appreciated.

KID WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH

DEAR KID: Because this is causing emotional problems that are affecting your studies, it can't be ignored. It is time for you to talk about this with a school counselor, a relative or a family friend for emotional support and guidance.

I also think at some point you should talk to your mother

about what you found on her phone. Tell her that's the reason you don't want to be friends with her business partner. Your sense of right and wrong is valid, and don't let her tell you otherwise. Do not be surprised if she's upset about the fact that you know what has been going on, so be prepared for it. I am sorry you have to go through this. It's a shame.

◆◆◆◆

DEAR ABBY: A few years ago, my husband and I bought and moved into a very old, small house in our ideal neighborhood, which has beautifully manicured yards, nice people and a lot of diversity. We had a vision for this place, and it was perfect for us.

A friend of mine, "Maggie," who I knew had a judgmental streak, repeatedly asked to come see the house, which I knew was nowhere near in the condition for visitors. After about her 10th request, I told myself maybe I was overreacting to her potential reaction, and I invited her into my home for a tour. Three years later, my husband and I remodeled our home to fit our vision. We are happy.

Six months after the remodel was complete, my husband and I were at a friend's house and Maggie was there. At one point, Maggie's husband commented to us that he couldn't believe we had moved into that "s—shack." My husband's jaw dropped. Maggie jumped up and said, "I didn't call it that!" Of course it was logical that she did. She had seen it; he had not.

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



To this day, a year and a half later, I cannot get over why someone I invited into my home would say something so horrible about it behind my back or that her husband would repeat it among a group of mutual friends. My husband refuses to engage with Maggie and her husband. What should I do?

PROUD OF MY HOME NOW

DEAR PROUD: I am sorry you didn't write sooner about this. If you had, I would have advised you to tell Maggie exactly how that incident made you and your husband feel. It is a little late for that now, but you would certainly be within your rights to clear the air if you wish. What they said was uncalled for.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



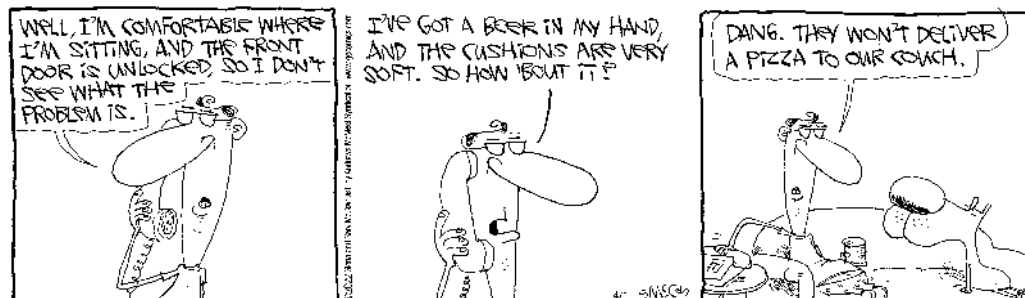
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

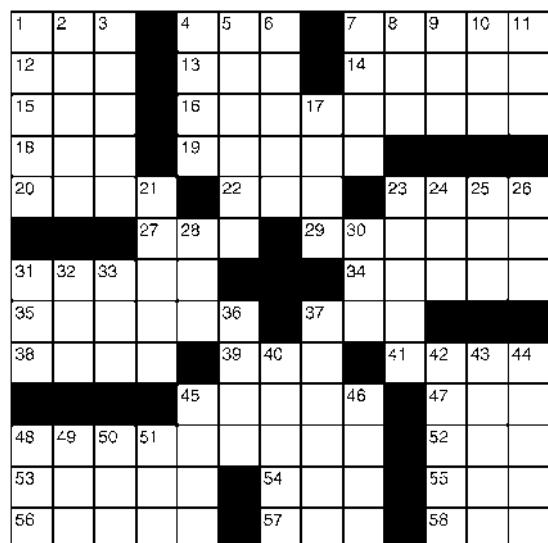
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Moment
4 Evening hrs.
7 Gave as an example
12 Director DuVernay
13 Fair hirer, in ads
14 Florida city
15 Sass
16 In an abundant way
18 Giverny summer
19 Bridge coups
20 Artist Chagall
22 Carte lead-in
23 Crystal gazer
27 "Say what?"
29 Linking verb
31 Tennis star Becker
34 Draco-nian
35 Square in Boston
- DOWN**
- 1 Oregon's capital
2 Musical set in Argentina
3 Prank
4 Chest muscles, briefly
5 Dinero
6 Flower part
7 Dove calls
8 Post-op area
9 Prof's aides
10 Right angle
11 Calendar box
17 Apple variety
21 Peru neighbor
23 Offspring
24 Where Lux. is
25 Overhead trains
26 Fan's cry
28 Employ
30 Sound of surprise
31 Abbr. in an email
32 Tic-tac-toe win
33 Spinning abbr.
36 Harvard rival
37 Owed amounts
40 Tribal emblem
42 Try for a job
43 Stormed
44 Elegance
45 Large amount
46 Read quickly
48 Taxi
49 Magic, on scoreboards
50 Pod dweller
51 Raggedy doll

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-1



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Asa Butterfield, 25; Klarc Jerome Wilson, 29; Taran Killam, 40; David Oyelowo, 46.

Happy Birthday: Speak your mind. Take the initiative to make your dreams come true. Be responsible for your happiness, construct a life that satisfies your needs and warms your soul. Invest in yourself, your ideas and being the best you can be. Surround yourself with people who share your dreams and beliefs. Set a standard, and you'll reach your expectations. Your numbers are 4, 7, 19, 28, 35, 41, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Head down a path you find inviting. Be receptive to what others have to offer and open to trying something new. Personal improvement is favored, and activities and events conducive to love and romance are encouraged. Put your dreams in motion. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Be aware of your surroundings and what everyone else is doing. Caution will prevent someone from taking advantage of your vulnerabilities. Offer strengths, not weaknesses, and you will undo anyone who tries to lead you astray. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You have knowledge, experience and good timing in abundance, so don't let anyone interfere with your plans. Challenge anyone who gets in your way, and gravitate toward those who contribute to your cause. Personal gain, partnerships and romance are favored. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Reflect on what's gone wrong, and adjust to ensure it won't happen again. Preparation is the

key to getting things right the first time. Don't get into a disagreement with someone who fights dirty or uses blackmail to outmaneuver you. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't worry about the changes others make. Go about your business, and people who share your concerns will offer help. A special relationship will enhance your life and give you a new perspective on the possibilities that exist. Romance is encouraged. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Set high standards, and stand by your word. Don't let what others do influence you to do something questionable or invest more in them than you. Your future is dependent on how you handle others and your ability to please yourself. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Plan to socialize with people who challenge you mentally and physically and those who bring out the best in you. Unique plans for two will bring you closer together and encourage personal stability and security that puts your mind at ease. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Try something different. A personal change may not please everyone, but if it sits well with you, that's all that matters. Take responsibility for your happiness, and your life will fall into place. Rid yourself of dead weight. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get involved in activities that require strength and agility. Work alongside people who share your goals and beliefs. A healthy, happy routine will help you do and be your best. Discuss your plans with someone you love, then

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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proceed with confidence. *****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let anyone railroad you into something you don't relish. Do your own thing, and make changes at home that add to your comfort and convenience. It's up to you to pick and choose how you spend your time and money. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take the direction that feels right, and don't let others interfere. Your decisions regarding money and business must come from the heart if you want them to work for you. It's essential to love what you do and who you are. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Bend a little, and things will swing in your favor. Incentives and compliments will help you persuade others to pitch in and help you achieve your goals. Demonstrate how passionate you are about your beliefs, and you will make a difference. ***

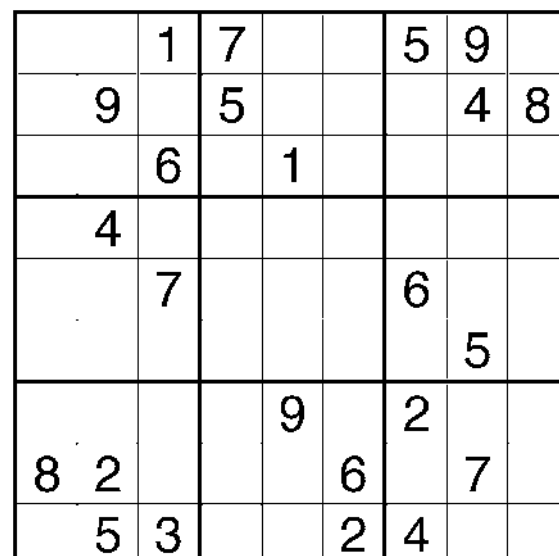
Birthday Baby: You are expressive, innovative and upbeat. You are responsive and indulgent.

☺ Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☺☺ You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☺☺☺ Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☺☺☺☺ Aim high; start new projects. ☺☺☺☺☺ Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



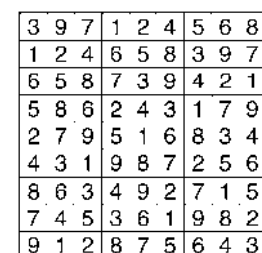
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/01

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

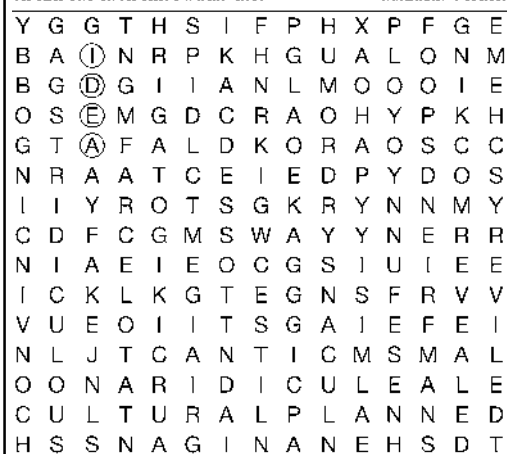
WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

APRIL 1ST IS APRIL FOOLS' DAY

Solution: 4 letters



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4/1

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Butler scores 24 to help Heat fend off Celtics, 106-98

BOSTON (AP)—An untimely losing streak has left the Miami Heat with some late-season competition for the Eastern Conference's top seed.

They took a step toward regaining some of the ground they lost recently against one of their chief challengers.

Jimmy Butler scored 24 points, Kyle Lowry added 23 and the Miami Heat rallied in the fourth quarter to hold off the Boston Celtics 106-98 on Wednesday night to stay atop the tight race for the conference's top seed.

Bam Adebayo finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds as Miami posted its second straight win since a season-worst four-game losing streak.

"I think we did a good job of just communicating and being there for each other," Lowry said.

After briefly taking over the East's top spot, Boston has lost two in a row for the first time since late January.

Jaylen Brown led the Celtics with 28 points and 10 rebounds. Jayson Tatum added 23 points and six assists.

Despite the loss, Tatum said in the long run it will help strengthen the mettle of this team.

"It's a good thing for us to learn from," Tatum said. "The season is not decided today. We've still got games to play, playoffs. So, we'll be good."

The back-and-forth game had very much the intensity of a playoff matchup, featuring nine ties and 16 lead changes.

Trailing by four points entering the fourth, Miami outscored Boston 27-15 over the final 12 minutes with a level of execution that has been missing over the past few weeks.

"We've gotten a lot better of knowing where the ball has to go," Butler said. "Putting everybody in the position that they need to be in to be successful."

Miami led by just a point at the half, but opened an 11-point cushion at the start of the third quarter.

The Celtics answered, running off 16 straight points to nudge back in front and eventually carried an 83-79 edge into the fourth.

It grew to 90-85 with 7:40 remaining when Daniel Theis tipped in a lob from Derrick White through contact from Dewayne Dedmon, who fouled out on the play.

The Heat stayed composed and responded with 12-3 spurt to take a 98-93 lead on a short jumper by Butler.

Boston cut it 98-96 with less than three minutes left,



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler (22) drives to the basket against Boston Celtics guard Derrick White (9) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, March 30, 2022, in Boston.

but came up empty on three straight possessions.

Lowry broke the stalemate with a jumper. Brown then had his shot blocked on the Celtics' next trip, and Lowry fed Butler for a fastbreak dunk to make it 102-96 with 1:43 left to play.

Boston had its own transition chance trailing 102-98 before Tatum was called for an offensive foul. The Celtics challenged the call, but it stood after review.

After another miss by Boston that was called out of bounds on Boston, Marcus Smart threw his hands up in frustration at the call and was ejected.

Miami was then able to close out the game on the free throw line.

Coach Erik Spoelstra said he likes the seeds his team is planting with the playoffs looming.

"That's why I like going through all these kind of games during the regular season," Spoelstra said. "We had our share of challenges going down the stretch. But what I love about this group is we come in the next day, work at it and really try to get better. Those experiences make you stronger."

Grizzlies 112, Spurs 111

In San Antonio, Tyus Jones scored 25 points and Memphis edged San Antonio to capture the Southwest Division title and clinch the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference.

Memphis never trailed, even as Ja Morant missed his sixth straight game with a knee injury. The Grizzlies improved to 19-2 without Morant this season.

San Antonio closed within a point, at 112-111, on a tip-in by Keldon Johnson with 27.8 seconds remaining. Following a miss by the Griz-

zlies' Desmond Bane, Johnson missed a contested layup with 2.7 seconds remaining.

The Spurs dropped a half-game behind the Los Angeles Lakers for 10th in the West and the final berth in the play-in tournament.

Pelicans 117, Trail Blazers 107

In Portland, Ore., CJ McCollum received a 90-second standing ovation in his first visit to Portland since a February trade to New Orleans, then scored 25 points in a win.

The Pelicans lead the Los Angeles Lakers by 1 1/2 games for the ninth spot in the Western Conference, which would put them into a play-in postseason game.

Fans hailed McCollum during lineup intros, and he received several more ovations and cheers throughout the night. He egged on fans by scoring 14 points in the first quarter, drawing roars with each basket just like he did for the better part of nine seasons in Portland.

Brandon Ingram and Jonas Valanciunas had 19 points each, and Jaxson Hayes had 18 for the Pelicans. Drew Eubanks led the Blazers with 21 points and nine rebounds.

Suns 107, Warriors 103

In San Francisco, Devin Booker's two free throws with 34.2 seconds left put Phoenix ahead, Draymond Green traveled to turn it over before Chris Paul made a short jumper, and the NBA-best Suns held off Golden State.

Jordan Poole scored a season-best 38 points to match his career high and also contributed nine rebounds and seven assists. He had five free throws over the final 1:20.

Poole drew a loose ball foul on Booker with 39.8 seconds to go and converted two free throws before Booker came through for the Suns (62-14) in their ninth straight victory.

Paul had 15 points and eight assists, Mikal Bridges scored 22 points and Deandre Ayton added 16 points and 16 rebounds for Phoenix.

Mavericks 120, Cavaliers 112

In Cleveland, Luka Dončić scored 35 points, added 13 assists and just missed another triple-double, leading Dallas over Cleveland, which was without star forward Evan Mobley.

Dorian Finney-Smith added a career-high 28 points for Dallas, which entered the game fourth in the Western Conference. With the win and Minnesota's loss to Toronto, the Mavericks locked up one of the top six playoff spots.

Doncic scored 20 with ease in the third, when the Mavericks took control by outscoring the Cavaliers 39-22.

Caris LeVert had his best game with Cleveland, scoring 32 points. Darius Garland added 25 points and 10 assists for the Cavs, who have dropped four of five and are trying to hang onto a home game in the play-in tournament.

Raptors 125, Timberwolves 102

In Toronto, Pascal Siakam had 12 points, 10 rebounds and a career-high 13 assists for his second career triple-double, Gary Trent Jr. scored 29 points and Toronto strengthened its hold on sixth place in the Eastern Conference.

Toronto (44-32) moved two games ahead of Cleveland for sixth after the Cavaliers lost to Dallas. OG

Anunoby scored 22 points, Scottie Barnes had 17 and Precious Achiuwa 13 as the Raptors overcame a 17-point second-quarter deficit to complete a 4-0 homestand.

Fred VanVleet scored 12 points and Thad Young had 10 as Toronto matched idle Chicago for the fifth-best record in the conference. The Bulls hold the tiebreaker on the Raptors after winning three of four meetings.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 16 points and 10 rebounds, and Anthony Edwards scored 24 points as the Timberwolves (43-34) lost for the fourth time in five games.

Kings 121, Rockets 118

In Houston, Davion Mitchell, Damian Jones and Trey Lyles scored 24 points each, and Sacramento outlasted Houston.

It was a wild back-and-forth game where both teams had double-digit leads before staying close in the fourth quarter.

The Kings got the win despite big performances from two of Houston's young stars. Rookie Jalen Green, the second overall pick in the draft, tied a season high with 32 points, and Kevin Porter Jr. had his first career triple-double with 30 points, 12 assists and a career-high 12 rebounds.

Donte DiVincenzo hit a 3 for Sacramento with about two minutes left and Jones added a layup on the next possession to give Sacramento a 117-113 lead with just more than a minute to go.

Nuggets 125, Pacers 118

In Indianapolis, Nikola Jokic flirted with another triple-double with 37 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists, helping Denver hold off Indiana.

The Nuggets led by 31 points during the second quarter before the Pacers stormed back. Indiana led 102-100 with 7:40 left in the fourth quarter before the Nuggets scored seven straight points to regain control.

Bones Hyland scored 20 points and Will Barton added 18 for the Nuggets, who shot 62.5% for the game.

Seven of the nine Pacers who played scored in double figures, led by Buddy Hield with 20 points, Terry Taylor with 18 and Goga Bitadze 17. The Pacers shot 45.4% for the game.

Hornets 125, Knicks 114

In New York, Miles Bridges scored 31 points and LaMelo Ball had 20 points and 15 re-

bounds to help lead Charlotte past New York.

Kelly Oubre Jr. scored 21 points on 8-for-11 shooting, including four 3-pointers, and Terry Rozier added 15 points for the Hornets, who have won eight of their last 11 games.

The Hornets improved to 40-37 and moved into a tie with idle Brooklyn for the eighth spot in the Eastern Conference.

Evan Fournier scored 30 points, going 6 for 8 from long distance, RJ Barrett added 25, and Julius Randle chipped in 21 for the Knicks, who had their four-game winning streak halted.

Wizards 12 Magic 110

In Washington, Kristaps Porzingis scored 35 points, and Tomas Satoransky had an unusual double-double — no points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds — as Washington beat Orlando.

Satoransky became the third player to finish a game with no points and at least 10 rebounds and 10 assists, joining Oklahoma City's Josh Giddey earlier this season and Cincinnati's Norm Van Lier in 1971.

Satoransky attempted only two shots, but he was part of a solid offensive performance for the Wizards. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 25 points, and Rui Hachimura and Daniel Gafford contributed 17 apiece.

Franz Wagner scored 28 points for the Magic, who lost their fourth straight. Orlando (20-57) came into the game tied with Detroit and Houston for the worst record in the NBA.

Hawks 136, Thunder 118

In Oklahoma City, Trae Young had 41 points and eight assists, and Atlanta rolled past Oklahoma City.

Young, who grew up in Norman and played for University of Oklahoma for one season, put on a show for a crowd that cheered him often. He made 13 of 24 field goals and 11 of 12 free throws in three quarters of action.

Kevin Huerter and Bogdan Bogdanovic each scored 20 points for the Hawks, who won their third straight and strengthened their hold on the No. 10 spot in the Eastern Conference standings. Atlanta is averaging 129.7 points during the win streak.

Lindy Waters III scored a career-high 25 points and made seven 3-pointers for the Thunder. Theo Maledon added 18 points and eight assists.

Eagle Construction wins 3rd straight masters game

MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

After four straight defeats, Eagle Construction has now made it three straight victories after beating DECM, 78-64, in the masters division of the Inaugural SCLC Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe.

Both teams were locked in a dogfight in the first half with Eagle Construction only managing a 1-point lead in the first quarter, 18-17, before growing it to 4 points, 39-35, at the half as forward Raymond Santos erupted for 10 points.

Santos, who missed Eagle Construction's last few games, continued his stellar play in the third, pumping in 7 more points to help the Boy Garcia-coached squad to a 54-48 spread heading into the final



10 minutes of the contest.

In the payoff period, Eagle Construction and DECM sprang backcourt pressure defenses on each other with the former getting the better of the exchange as they blew the game wide open en route to the 14-point win. Santos paced Eagle Construction with 27 points, while Teng Alegre and Butch Sublemente added 10 markers apiece in the win. Both teams are now tied in the standings at 3-4.

On Tuesday, The Game and Vizion Insurance waylaid separate opponents with the former improving to 5-1 with an 85-47 demolition of RNV Construction. Do-it-all forward Richard McWilliams returned from injury to score a game-high 26 points for The Game.

Vizion Insurance upped its record to 4-3 following an 82-63 rout of Royal Pacific. Rodel Pastrana scored 29 points in the

win. The loss was the fourth in six outings for Royal Pacific.

Last Sunday, JTM edged Marianas Dental Center, 61-57, to improve to 5-3, while dropping MDC to 2-6. In the other open division game, IT&E edged Lakay/Islander, 62-60. IT&E now sports a 2-4 win-loss record, while their victims fell to 4-5.

WEDNESDAY

Eagle Construction 76 – Santos 27, Alegre 10, Sublemente 10, Ocampo 8, Umali 7, Pineda 6, Singca 4, Garcia 2, J. Itaas 2.

DECM 64 – Tabora 30, Galulu 10, Salazar 8, Calungsad 5, Rivera 4, Joson 4, Pangelinan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 18-17, 39-35, 54-48, 78-64.

TUESDAY First Game

The Game 85 – McWil-

liams 26, Mintac 16, Sagum 15, Deleon Guerrero 13, Dayao 7, Shamburger 4, Hernandez 2, Arellano 2.

RNV Construction 47 – Villanil 12, Ocampo 10, Villacrusis 7, Zapanta 4, Onit 4, Vargas 4, Alcosoba 4, Taraya 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-17, 36-26, 61-36, 85-47.

Second Game

Vizion Insurance 82 – Pastrana 29, Baul 14, Bungabong 6, Regaton 4, Capuyon 2, Ramos 2, Santos 1.

Royal Pacific 63 – Base 16, Capon 14, A. Tabora 7, Concepcion 7, J. Tabora 6, Lazatin 6, Fundador 6, Batulan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 27-22, 43-42, 61-50, 82-62.



MARK RABAGO

Eagle Construction's Butch Sublemente goes up for a layup against DECM in the masters division of the Inaugural SCLC Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe.

Pangelinan again tops Intermediate Class

MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Corry Pangelinan won the Intermediate Class of the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series Race with another flawless



run last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Track. The 17-year-old Marianas High School student won both heats to finish with 50 points. Tristan Sablan came in second with 44 points after finishing runner-up on both heats, while Henry Camacho Jr. took third with 40 points.

"I was just focused on not crashing. Since the last race, they updated the track. I'm still adjusting to the changes so I guess it felt different. The weather was on and off but during my race it was all clear," he said.

Pangelinan said Lady Luck smiled at him during the race and that's why he was able to win the March competition.

"I attribute this win to T.J. Ferrer because he crashed during his second race. Of course, I also appreciate the support from my family, friends, fans, sponsors, and coach Ellery Cruz. I'm excited to race with

the top riders. I know I just gotta keep doing what I'm doing and I know I'll make it," he said when asked about his performance last Sunday."

In the Peewee ATV Class, Rockson Cabrera came first with 47 points, the same as Keoni Rosario's total but won the division outright after topping the second heat. Brooklyn Susulin finished third with 40 points.

Vicente Palacios topped the Mini II with 47 points, followed by the 42 points of

Billie Pangelinan and the 38 points of Devin Yumul.

In the Big Boy ATV, Christian Camacho again ruled the roost with a perfect 50 points. Second place went to Henry Camacho Sr. with his 44 points with Res Susulin third with his 40 points.

Dave Celis took the checkered flag in the Veterans Class thanks to topping both heats for 50 points. Champi Villacanes and Melvin Cepeda came in second and third with 42 points and 38 points, respectively.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank "The Crank" Camacho tries on his new motocross gear after deciding to try out a new sport following his fight against Manuel "El Loco" Torres in UFC Fight Night 209 in May 14.

CRANK

From Page 24

me! But what I realized while watching Frank blossom into a formidable mixed martial artist, is that he will not quit until he masters what he sets out to be good at. That has always been his mantra, and I'm anxious to see him do his thing lapping around Cowtown when the green flag goes up."

The father of three children mentioned that he had done a few practice rounds in Guam at their motocross track with local motocross enthusiast and jiu-jitsu practitioner Johnny Agun and former Saipan resident Kim Aiken in preparing for this transition. Camacho said, "John and Uncle Kim have been good coaches, they have been at this longer than I have and their style of teaching is nearly similar to the same coaching I got from Cuki at Trench Tech," adding

that both Agun and Aiken have races in the CNMI under their respective belts.

Camacho is expected to make his racing debut this coming May as part of the 2022 MRA Points Series. MRA president and veteran racer Charles V. Cepeda was nothing but smiles when reacting to the news.

"Frank Camacho has not only been a source of island pride every time he straps on the glove inside the eight sides, but he is without a doubt, a role model for all the youth of the Marianas. Many of our young racers are fans of his, and definitely will be happy to know he'll sharing the track with all of them and getting down and dirty with them just as they do every chance they race. I also hope that with his decision to race full-time, more aspiring racers will join the Association and more spectators will witness the races we put on for

them at Marpi," Cepeda said in a statement sent to the news desk earlier today."

Camacho's next fight is scheduled for May 14 at UFC Fight Night 209, where he will face Manuel "El Loco" Torres in what is only Torres' second fight inside the Octagon™. When reflecting on his fighting career, Camacho said, "I had a good one, I have accomplished more than what I set out to do in this journey and I am forever grateful for the experiences and blessings it has given me. However, when asked for any parting words, he said, "If you think you've seen everything Frank 'The Crank' Camacho can do, you ain't seen nothing yet Marianas. I'm just as relentless on the racetrack as I am within three to five rounds and I am ready to crank up the volume and kick up some dust. And I would like to tell all my fans, "HAPPY APRIL FOOLS DAY!" (PR)

E-LAND

From Page 24

nesses to join companies like Joeten Daidai Foundation, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Northern Marianas College, E-Land Group, and others in investing in the NMI and its people as we prepare to host 24 countries and the massive undertaking that is the NMIPMG 2022," said Peter.

NMI PMG Organizing

Committee was joined during the turnover of the check by Shin, E-Land Group vice president Gloria Cavanaugh, who is also the Athlete Village mayor for the Mini Games, and the E-Land Group executive team.

In other news, NMI PMG Organizing Committee thanked the Office of the Governor-Youth Affairs Office, especially to apecial Assistant, Ali T. Ogo, and youth representative Randall Pangelinan

for "Rising Up To The Challenge: and assigning over 20 staff to assist with yje Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

"We are so grateful to have the much-needed help with staffing here at the NMI PMG Organizing Committee 2022 office. With all hands on deck, it is now full steam ahead, as there are only 80 days until the opening ceremony," said Peter. (PR)

3-WAY

From Page 24

to complete Matansa's dominance of Paire.

GIRLS U16

Southern United 15, Paire 1 Southern United FC gained its second win in three games after pouncing on Paire.

Pia Ngewakl powered Southern past Paire after bagging six goals, while Summer Manahane added five, and Beatrice Gross hit the lone goal

for the losing squad.

MP United 3, Shirley's 0

MP United matched Southern's second victory in the season after shutting down Shirley's.

Fiona Regan tallied a pair, while Yelin Park posted the other goal for MP United.

GIRLS U13

Southern United 5, Kanoa-20 Southern United also triumphed in the girls U13 after blanking Kanoa-2.

Rosie Saralu made all the goals of Southern, handing the team its third win after four games.

Paire 2, Matansa 1

Paire nipped Matansa to duplicate the former's 3-0-1 mark, which is also the record of Southern United and TanHoldings-1.

Gross nailed the go-ahead for Paire, while Caurie Staffler scored the team's other goal. Alyssa Borlongan handed Matansa its lone goal

in the close match.

Kanoa-1 2, TanHoldings-1 1

TanHoldings-1 lost the solo lead in the division after Kanoa-1 won their tight match last weekend.

Lynn Ha Ye nailed the winning goal for Kanoa-1, while Aubrey White handed the squad its first goal. Kaye Anne Costales was the only player to score for TanHoldings-1.

In other results in the division, MP United and Tan-

Holdings-2 settled for a draw, 1-1. Alie Brasuell scored for MP United, while Breanna Lopez did the same for TanHoldings-2.

BOYS U13

Paire 6, TanHoldings 4

Paire is alone in first place in the team standings in the division after beating TanHoldings and gaining a 3-0-1 slate.

Jaytee Villagomez hit four goals for Paire, while his brother Jazzroy added a pair.

TanHoldings goals all came from Emerson Brillo.

In other results in the division, Kanoa and Matansa engaged in a draw, 1-1, while MP United Blue nosed out MP United Pink, 1-0.

Meanwhile, the ongoing TakeCare NMIFA Youth Spring League also have games in the co-ed U8, U10, U13 (non-competitive), and U6 with over 30 teams spread in these age groups and playing at the NMISTC every Saturday.

Mister, Nelson relieve salad years in For The Luck of Volleyball

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Former Micronesian Games beach volleyball gold medalists Tyce Mister and Chris Nelson brought back the hands of time to win the men's division of the For The Luck of Volleyball last March 26 at the sand courts of Crowne Plaza Resort in Garapan.

Nelson and Mister, who won the Micro Games gold medal on home soil in 2006 on Saipan, played under the team name Lucky Leprechauns and swept the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association-organized competition that also served as a qualifier for this year's Pacific Mini Games. The duo beat Volley Bros' Marc Danga and Steven Hong in the finals, 21-13, to the top the 15-team field.

The eventual champs started off with a 21-9 victory over It's The Wind. They followed that up with a 21-13 win over Need Air. Volley Bros kicked off their campaign with a 21-11 triumph over 24L and then booked the semis match against Lucky Leprechauns after beating Chupapi, 21-15.

Lucky Leprechauns eased into the championship round with the aforementioned win over Danga and Hong. Volley



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tyce Mister, second from right, and Chris Nelson, right, pose with runners-up Marc Danga, left, and Steven Hong after winning the men's division of the For The Luck of Volleyball last March 26 at the sand courts of Crowne Plaza Resort in Garapan.

Bros then duked it out in the loser's bracket finals against Baconator and earned a second shot at Nelson and Mister after prevailing 21-11, but lost steam in the end against their erstwhile tormentors.

Mister said it was great playing with Nelson in the one-day For The Luck of Volleyball tournament again.

"We are so lucky to be able to train and practice in such

a beautiful spot. We've been playing regular pickup games for years and years. This is the first tournament in a while that we've been able to play together, lots of fun! Chris is really fantastic to play with as he is very competitive yet knows how to keep that balance of fun," he said.

The Gold's Gym Saipan manager said he's also stoked for the up-and-coming players in beach volleyball.

"I'm super excited to see

some of the younger players coming out and play beach volleyball. It's cool to see the improvement. I look forward to more fun competition in the near future," he said.

Nelson echoed Mister when he said that it was amazing to play with his old partner again.

"It's always great to play with Tyce and it was so nice to get out and be able to play in an actual tournament. Tyce and I have had some fun matches together over the years. We

played in the Pacific Games down in New Caledonia, played the Australian National Team in an FIVB qualifier, and won gold in the Micronesian Games. We have also been on volleyball trips together to Samoa, Hawaii, the Philippines, Japan, and Guam. He's a terrific mentor and friend. Tyce is such a big part of the local volleyball community, not just coaching, but volunteering, brainstorming, setting up poles, courts, and nets."

The Flame Tree TV president added that For The Luck of Volleyball was also a good avenue to train players under the CNMI national beach volleyball pool for the Mini Games.

"We have been training some of the younger players the last few weeks and it was great to see them get out there and perform in game-like situations. There was some great play all around. We are looking for-

ward to using the Pacific Mini Games as a stepping stone into expanding beach volleyball in the local community. Saipan is a great place to play volleyball, in fact I think it's the best place in the world when you talk about weather, sand, setting, courts, and overall vibe. We really do have something special here and as you travel and get older you realize that more and more," he said.

Nelson also can't wait for the Mini Games to unfurl in the CNMI this coming June 17-25.

"I'm looking forward to continuing the training for the Mini Games and to cheer the team on. We are going to host a really top notch event with some skilled players and it's going to be great for the community to see all the players from around the Pacific and all the camaraderie that comes with an event like this one," he said.

MARPAC renews support for SEDA, SBA leagues



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Saipan Electronic Darts Association and Saipan Billiards Association leagues secretary Warlee T. Ellama is flanked by MARPAC general manager Guy Pudney, right, and sales manager James Lee after receiving a \$4,000 check from the company.

MARPAC-Bud Light and Budweiser management renewed their commitment for the support of the 2021 darts and billiards leagues by presenting an annual sponsorship check to the Saipan Electronic Darts Association and Saipan Billiards Association.

MARPAC general manager Guy Pudney and sales manager James Lee presented a \$4,000 check to SEDA/SBA leagues secretary Warlee T. Ellama.

MARPAC has been a continuous league supporter for over 20 years. The funding will cover awarding trophies and other league administrative expenses as organized by SEDA and SBA.

Saipan Electronic Darts Association and Saipan Billiards Association is managed by Pacific Amusement with the help of MARPAC, Bud Light, and Budweiser. SEDA and SBA were able to significantly grow in darts and billiards players who enjoy the camaraderie and competition.

As the years have gone by,

the league has accumulated some impressive statistics. More than 3,500 players have participated in league play since SEDA began in 1993. SEDA and SBA's current leagues have a total of 52 teams with over 350 participants.

League play is active year-around at the following Saipan locations: Jonny's Bar & Grill, Safehouse, Just Chillin Saipan, Spicy Thai Restaurant, 6JMS Sport Bar, Rivers Billiards, True North Bar & Grill, Oleai Beach Bar, Last Shot Bar, 9 Eleven Restobar, Oleai Beach Bar, Tambayan Resto, and Marianas Bistro.

SEDA and SBA leagues have room for every skill level, even beginners. SEDA and SBA leagues are some of the biggest sports leagues in the CNMI playing Monday through Thursday all over Saipan.

Pacific Amusement, SEDA, SBA, and all Saipan darts and billiards players are extremely thankful for MARPAC's continuous support. (PR)

TSL Foundation supports MV Founder's Golf



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Variety president Amier Younis, third left, is joined by his staff in receiving the \$5,000 ceremonial check donation from Tan Siu Lin Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, center, for the MV Founder's Memorial Golf Tournament during a brief ceremony last month at TanHoldings conference room in Garapan.

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation rallies behind a fundraising golf tournament that will have part of its proceeds donated to the local chapter of Karidat Social Services.

TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino presented TanHoldings charitable arm's \$5,000 dona-

tion to *Marianas Variety* president Amier Younis last month in support of the MV Founder's Memorial Golf Tournament. *Marianas Variety* is holding the golf tournament tomorrow, Saturday, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort in celebration of its 50th anniversary and in honor of

its founder and former publisher, the late Abed Younis.

"On behalf of the management and staff of *Marianas Variety*, we would like to thank TanHoldings and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for their support to our event," said Amier Younis.

The *Marianas Variety*

president added that portion of the proceeds from tomorrow's tournament will be donated to Karidat Social Services, which for decades has been responding to the needs of the community through its food pantry program, rental assistance, and other initiatives that cater to those living in poverty and victims of violence and natural disaster.

"There's a lot of history between *Marianas Variety*'s founder and Karidat. The late Mr. Abed Younis was a former board member of Karidat and also an avid golfer, so it's really fitting that we have this event in honor of him and we have the non-profit group closed to him as our beneficiary," Amier said.

Meanwhile, Tolentino congratulates *Marianas Variety* for its milestone. She also acknowledged the publishing company's contributions to the community for five decades, including providing Karidat with the means to help NMI residents.

The inaugural MV Founder's Memorial Golf Tournament will tee off at 7:30am on the west course of the Kagman facility. It will have competitions in seven categories: Super Senior, Senior, Ladies, Championship, A, B, and C flights. (PR)



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Saipan Tribune Sports

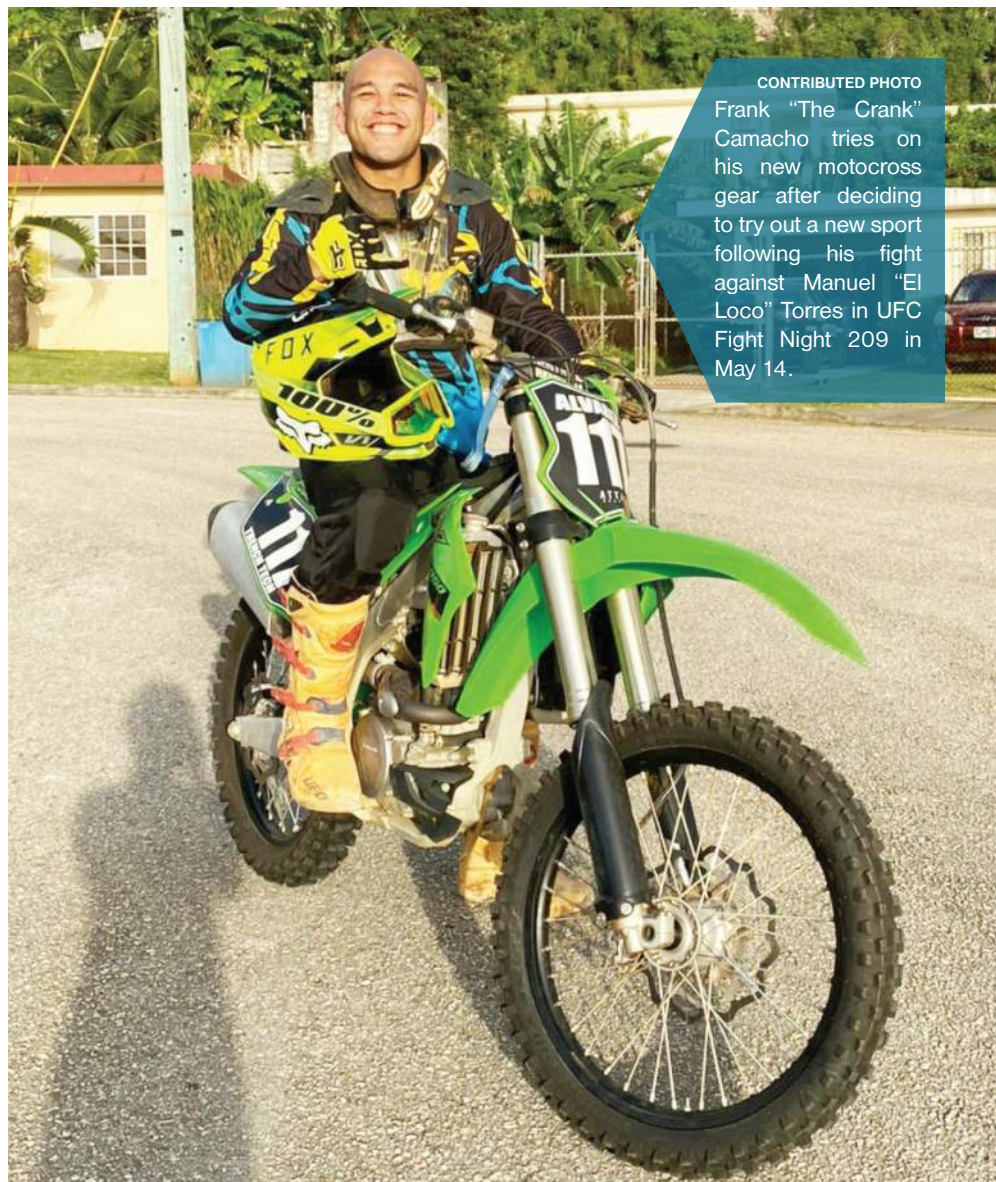
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

'The Crank' eyes shift to motocross



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frank "The Crank" Camacho tries on his new motocross gear after deciding to try out a new sport following his fight against Manuel "El Loco" Torres in UFC Fight Night 209 in May 14.

It appears as though local MMA star Frank "The Crank" Camacho has decided to reinvent his sporting career by trading in fighting with two fists to racing on two wheels. Camacho, who is currently on island enjoying a vacation, yesterday announced that after his next fight in the Ultimate Fighting Championship he will be transitioning to a full-time career in the sport of motocross.

When asked in an interview why the sudden change of sports, Camacho mentioned an old memory as his reason. "Ever since I first threw a leg over my friend's Suzuki 1995 RM 80 in 2004 with just a pair of zorries and crashed on the kaskão (Chamorro for "gravel"), it triggered something

inside me that only now came to fruition."

It was after looking at videos that members of the Marianas Racing Association would post up on social media that the bug to race bit him again. "Those races made me realize that motocross has been

my sports passion all along. I just didn't know it at the time," Camacho added.

This is not the first time the former Ultimate Reality Combat Championship light heavyweight champion and three-time Fight of the Night winner in the UFC has taken to a different sport while focusing on another. Prior to his fateful encounter with Trench Tech/Purebred MMA, Camacho had aspirations of becoming a professional golfer and competed on the national team level as a golfer.

When asked about Camacho's decision, MRA vice president and extreme sports legend Cuki Alvarez said, "I know that this is a shocker, it definitely was a shock to See CRANK on Page 22

3-way tie for lead in TakeCare Spring League

By ROSELYN B. MONROY
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REPORTER



Kanoa Football Club won the battle of unbeaten teams in the boys U16 division, creating a three-way tie for the lead in their group as action in the TakeCare NMIFA Youth Spring League 2022 continued last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobleville.

Kanoa outclassed TanHoldings Football Club, 3-1, to improve to a 3-0-1 win-draw-loss record—the same mark that the latter and MP United Football Club have. MP United notched win No. 3 following a 16-1 rout of Shirley's Football Club also last Saturday.

In the Kanoa-TanHoldings tiff, Markus Toves, Ruben Guerrero, and Paul Lizama scored for the winning squad, while TanHoldings drew its lone goal from Anthony Bergancia.

In the MP United-Shirley's duel, Isaiah Hossain and Casey Chambers recorded four goals apiece in the easy win for the former, while William Lee accounted for three goals. Xavier Lee added two, while Set Tababa, Ashley Mallick, and Jack Raho made one apiece. Jayvin Bisek scored the only goal for Shirley's.

In other results, Matansa also crushed Paire Football



MICHAELA PANGANIBAN

Parents watch their children play for Paire Football Club (in red uniform) and MP United Football Club in the co-ed U18 division game in the TakeCare NMIFA Youth Spring League 2022 last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobleville.

Club, 8-0. Jerome Mettao led Matansa's lopsided victory after delivering a hat-trick. Jack Paul Lizama chipped in two goals, while Justin Loveras, Robait Ratol, and Arif Khan contributed one apiece See 3-WAY on Page 22

E-Land Group donates \$50K to Mini Games

The NMI Pacific Mini Games Organizing Committee is proud to announce and welcome E-Land Group as the official Gold Sponsor for the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

On hand to receive the generous donation of \$50,000 were NMI PMG Organizing Committee chair

Marco Peter and CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta at the Kensington Hotel.



E-Land Group has been a strong supporter of NMI community-based events for many years. The NMI PMG Organizing Committee expresses its gratitude and appreciation for their support in achieving a momentous

event here in the Northern Marianas.

"We have been very fortunate to have private community partners and leaders like Brian Shin, CEO of E-Land Group, for investing not only their time, funds, but staffing to ensure our NMIPMG games will be successful. We welcome and invite our private busi-

See E-LAND on Page 22



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

E-Land Group executives, led by CEO Brian Shin, pose with Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games Organizing Committee chair Marco Peter and CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta following the company's turnover of \$50,000 as Gold Sponsor for the Mini Games at the Kensington Hotel.






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DAYS LEFT UNTIL






**NORTHERN MARIANAS
PACIFIC MINI GAMES
2022**

JUNE 17-25, 2022





